



MUSCOGEE NATION

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov - communications@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

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NATIVE NEWS TODAY

Native News Today, hosted by Gerald Wofford and Jason Salsman, is currently being broadcast weekly on Saturday mornings beginning at 11 a.m. on Cox Cable Channel 3 in Tulsa and in the Oklahoma City area on Cox Cable Channel 7.



For more information, or to submit story ideas contact us at (918) 732-7720.

MUSCOGEE CALENDAR

The Communications Department has produced a 2007 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Calendar that features tribal officials, programs, events, and culture. Also included in the calendar is a tribal directory and jurisdiction map.



For more information about the calendar, contact Shawn Taryole at (918) 732-7645.

JANUARY'S REMINDER

The Summer Youth Program will begin accepting application on January 29 - March 30.

Applications will only be accepted over the phone, Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

To call in your application contact the Employment & Training at (800) 482-1979 or (918) 732-7775 & 7776.

Tribal officials present citizens with keys to a new home

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Lucinda Tiger, of Eufaula, is all smiles as she speaks with Chief A.D. Ellis before the presentation of keys to her new house, made possible by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Administration and the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation Alternative Housing Program. Chief Ellis, along with other tribal administration, presented another set of keys to Pauline Bean of Eufaula the same day.



STARLA BUSH/MNN

AT&T Excelerator Grant to help network the nation

Weleetka, Wetumka, Glenpool, and Eufaula communities to benefit from the grant

by Carla Brown
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — Don Cain, President of AT&T Oklahoma operations, awarded Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with the AT&T Excelerator Grant in the amount of \$23,348.

The monies will be used to purchase projectors, screens and provide high speed internet or DSL to disadvantaged communities. The communities that will benefit from this grant will include Weleetka, Wetumka, Glenpool, and Eufaula.

With the help of AT&T all the communities centers within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries will have access to viewing council meeting. The IT department will be providing the community center with surplus computer and provide training to the community centers.



Pictured above, from left to right, is: Senator Robert Ballinger, Julie Moss, House Representative Jerry Shoemaker, Chief Ellis, and Don Cain.
DENISE JACOBS/MNN

NETWORKING COMMUNITIES

According to Claude Sumner, Executive Director, the AT&T Excelerator Grant will help the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complete its efforts in fully networking communities with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation central government. A task Chief Ellis and his present administration targeted from the beginning of his term as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Council provides funding for children's home

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

MUSKOGEE — National Council Representatives Ronald Cleghorn and Eddie LaGrone recently presented a check on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to the Murrow Indian Children's Home. Cleghorn and LaGrone presented a check to Murrow Indian Children's Home director, Joan Brown, in the amount of \$2,100.

Brown has worked for Murrow for 31 years. "I

love working with kids," said Brown. "The children and I would like to thank the Creek Nation and all who helped."

"The event was a humbling experience," said Cleghorn. "Every child received \$100. The Muskogee and Okmulgee Casino also donated gifts and money."

Legrone echoed the same feeling. "The donation was made so the kids could have a memorable holiday."



Legrone and Cleghorn present check to Brown as children look on.

Council responds to legal action brought by Chief

OKMULGEE — The National Council responded to Chief A.D. Ellis' filed application against the Council for contempt citation and petition for writs of prohibition and/or mandamus by filing a response and objection requesting the court to decline to intervene in the political process between the two branches of government.

"I believe that differences can be worked out before litigation," said Speaker George Tiger. "As far as the National Council, we have made good faith attempts to negotiate."

"Upon being elected Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation, I took an oath to uphold the Constitution of Muscogee Nation and I am doing that to the best of my ability as Principal Chief," said Ellis. "As Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation, my administration will follow and protect the laws in our Constitution and not waiver."

The Supreme Court has not yet decided to hear the case. (see A2 for Legal Notice)

Letter from the Principal Chief

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted on January 9, 2007

Happy New Year to all Creek citizens and everyone else who might read this article. This is a new year and a new time for Creek Nation.

Former Chief Perry Beaver always said, are we better off now than we were a year ago. Sure we are, in most any way you want to describe. We have life, liberty, and are free to follow our dreams.

As tribal leaders, we must have dreams and visions that far exceed our ability to accomplish in any one year. When you refuse to dream about the future then I

believe its time to quit. The Creek Nation's future is bright and shinny,



Chief Ellis

we must work together to ensure our people are provided the best life possible with opportunities to enjoy

family and friends.

The 27th of January, I will give my 2007 State of the Nation Address on live internet and invite everyone to watch and listen. I encourage all communities with internet hookups to invite your members to watch this first National Council meeting of 2007.

You will be given an update on all the happenings of last year and our plans for 2007.

Again, may you each have a healthy and prosperous New Year.

QUOTE: Don't ask what can the Creek Nation do for me, but what can I do for our Creek Nation.

Mvto.

A.D. Ellis

Legal Notices

A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Plaintiff,

vs.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL, Defendant

Case No. SC-06-07

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RESPONSE AND OBJECTION TO APPLICATION FOR CONTEMPT CITATION AND PETITION FOR WRITS OF PROHIBITION AND/OR MANDAMUS (with combined brief and authorities)

COMES NOW, the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and makes their response and objection (to filing which the Defendant understands will be treated as a motion) as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff, A.D. Ellis has moved this Court to issue a contempt citation against the Legislative Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and further filed a Petition for Writs of Prohibition and/or Mandamus. The National Council requests this Court decline to intervene in the political process between the other two branches of government of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as the bill process and budget process are integral to the functions of the legislature and the executive. Disputes between these two branches of government are part of the political process, and as long as no deprivation of constitutional rights of the individual occurs, which has not been plead in this case, then the issue is political. The Constitution sets forth the bill process, which all agree in this case was followed. Disgruntled Council or Chiefs hear the response to their policies and views through the election process directly from the citizens. To bring political questions to the Court and request a judicial decision on political matters is a request to take issues away from the electorate and to add language not in the Constitution.

In re the Marriage of: PAMELA SUE CORELY, Petitioner,

vs.

WILLIAM JAMES CORLEY, Respondent

Case No. DV 2006-24 Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICES OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: William James Corley

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2006-24, styled In re the Marriage of Pamela Due Corley, Petitioner and William James Corley, Respon-

dent. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to a Decree of Dissolution of Marriage from you based on the grounds of incompatibility. You are notified that you must answer the Petition files by the petitioner on or before the 6 day of February, 2007, or the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her Petition.

Said relief will award to the Petitioner all right, title and interest in the real property located at 1312 West Moore Street, Henryetta, Oklahoma, more particularly described as:

“Lots Thirteen (13), Fourteen (14) and Fifteen (15), Block Forty-Six (46) in Key's Second (2nd) Addition to the City of Henryetta, Okmulgee County, State of Oklahoma.”

Given under my hand and seal this 13th day of December 2006.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Marriage of: Doug Murphy,

Petitioner,

and

Sherri Lee Murphy,

Respondent,

No. DV-2006-29

Judge Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Sherri Lee Murphy

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2006-29, styled In re the Marriage of Doug Murphy, Petitioner, and Sherri Lee Murphy, Respondent. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to a Decree of Dissolution of Marriage from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the Petition filed by the Petitioner on or before the 22nd day of February, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. or the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in the Petition.

Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of January, 2007.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

District Court Filings for December 2006

Civil:	
MCN v. (1) Savage Model #110.270 Caliber Rifle Serial #F298935 with attached Bushnell Scope	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Creditors Recovery Corp. v. Fannie Washington	Foreign Judgment
Mike Young v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casino and Video Gaming Technologies, Inc. dba VGT Service Center	Petition
Warn Home Furnishings v. Kristy Ramsey	Foreign Judgment
Credit Acceptance Corp. v. Kimberly Stell	Foreign Judgment
Creditors Recovery Corp. v. Lisa Hanson	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Tammy Rabbit	Small Claims
National Quik Cash v. Jennifer Wallace	Small Claims
National Quik Cash v. Mercedes Pappan	Small Claims
National Quick Cash v. Derek Fife	Small Claims
National Quick Cash v. Patricia Bunner	Small Claims
Divorce:	
Karla Phillips v. Jonathon Phillips	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Little Jim Squirrel v. Deanna Squirrel	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Trina Hamm v. Jeremy Hamm	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Protective Orders:	
Michael Dean Sr. v. Amber McDowell	Ex-Parte
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Zachary Hamilton	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication Ct. 2: Alcoholic Beverages on Gaming Premises
MCN v. William O'Dell	Ct 3: Possession of Firearms on Gaming Premises
MCN v. James Louis Smith	Ct. 1: Possession of Marijuana
Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Ronald Butler	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Nathan Joe Laird	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Ct 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia

MCN v. Michael Lockhart	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Traffic:	
MCN v. David Sargent	DUS
MCN v. Lanalda George	Expired Tag
MCN v. Candice Badillo	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jesse Bucelluni	Driving on Property without Required Registration
MCN v. Troy Holden	No Seatbelt
MCN v. Stephen Sanders	No Insurance
MCN v. Adam Locke	Expired Tag
MCN v. Tom Norris	No Seatbelt
MCN v. Jimmy Sheridan	Expired Tag
MCN v. Bejamin Njorge	DUS
MCN v. Aethena Fisher	Trespassing
MCN v. Heather Benware	DUS
MCN v. Judy Emerson	Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Ely Amerson	Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Frankie Walker	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Justin Bolton	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Bruce Barrett	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Chad Heflin	No Insurance
MCN v. Stacy Gwyn	DUS
MCN v. John Huskins	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jimmy Smith	DUS
MCN v. James Lay	Expired Tag
MCN v. Cory Logan	No Insurance
MCN v. Leon Lish	No Insurance
	DUS
	Parking in a Handicapp Zone
	Expired Drivers License
	No Insurance
	Expired Tag
	Invalid Driver's License

SEE DISTRICT COURT - A8

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Community appreciates help

Editor:

I am writing for two reasons. One, I would like to Thank you. I received a custom made Veterans vest made by Filena Davis from your Veterans Dept. and it is beautiful! I can't wear it right now but hope to be able to one day. Since I've been inside I've learned to bead and I would like to make you something. If you will send your favorite colors I will get started. Again, thank you for your Veterans Department.

Secondly, I am trying to get some Eagle feathers. Will you have someone there fill out the back of this application and mail it back to me so I can send it in?

I will be waiting on your colors for your bead work. Mvto!

Respectfully,
William T. Alexander #255275
CCF
3700 S. Kings Hwy.
Cushing, OK 74023

Citizen searches for genealogy information

Editor:

My name is Eric Lynch. I am a retired history instructor and independent researcher. I am assisting my mother, Geraldine Lynch now 78 unearh the missing pages in our family genealogy. Many of our relatives who had a wealth of pertinent information, but were reluctant to share the family history are new deceased. Therefore, we are hoping that by presenting this article in your paper, someone within the Creek Nation and Oklahoma community may be able to provide us with some necessary information.

Her are some facts that will shed some light on our family. According to my mother's aunt Georgie Mae Taylor Perryman, Geraldine's father was Bowman Childess. Her mother was Lucille (Lucile) Marie Taylor (1904-1994). Their relationship took place sometime around 1927. From that union, my mother was born in 1928. During her short stay in Coweta, OK she was known as "Gerline." Also, aunt Georgie lived next door to Viola (Lizzie) and Mosa (Uncle Goodie) Childess. Georgie was married to Dave (Sabbie) William at that time.

Now, according to my mother, aunt Georgie kept all family information a secret. It was not until some years later that these facts were revealed. In addition, the person my mother was led to believe was her father (Andrew Ford) indicated that he was not. This was not disclosed until his death recently.

SEE LETTERS - A8



Muscogee Nation News November 2006

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the desk of the Speaker

HE(N)SCI !!!

Happy New Year! With the beginning of a new year the National Council is looking forward to what will be a very productive one. I want to remind you my weekly video messages are available on the Muscogee Nation's web site.

In November, the National Council passed legislation to authorize the Principal Chief to enter into a contract for legal counsel so we may have the ability to file claims of mismanagement of Trust Funds. On December 20th, a claim was filed in behalf of the Nation against the Federal government to recover lost revenues to the Tribe. Revenues that may be recovered could be such as shortages of royalties of land lease and oil and gas lease. Our Nation was one of the last larger tribes in the state to file such claims. I commend the National Council for addressing such an important issue. Much of the information to file the claim was derived from an Arthur Anderson audit that was performed and according to Tribal leaders throughout the country, this audit questions whether this is a true accountability. As late as last week, the Native American Rights Fund filed a number of claims in behalf of many Indian nations.

Since the beginning of our new Fiscal Year the National Council has appropriated just over \$1.5 million dollars. Appropriation Bills can be initiated by the Executive or Legislative branch of our government. This office has received a number of correspondences that extend appreciation to the Muscogee Creek Nation tribal government for assisting their community, church, ceremonial grounds as well individuals.

Our next meeting of the National Council scheduled for January 27th will be a Quarterly Session and a presentation of the State of the Nation address by Chief Ellis. We are expecting a number of special guests for this session. All meetings of the National Council are open at the committee and Council level, and, encourage our tribal members to attend. Also, our monthly meetings are broadcast on the internet and are available for viewing and soon a majority of the communities will be able to provide this resource to everyone at their respective facility. Tribal members contact me personally to thank the Nation for providing the web cast include members not only within our boundaries but world wide.

In closing, I extend my appreciation to our employees that work hard to provide much needed services that benefit our people. Many have been working for a number of years and their loyalty and dedication at times goes unnoticed. During the recent employee recognition event held in the auditorium those who were recognized for their years of service will never be forgotten.

Until next month, make it a good one! MVTO!



Tiger

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE NOVEMBER 18, REGULAR SESSION.

NOV. 18, REGULAR SESSION

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **LENA WIND** AND **DUKE HARJO** EXCUSED FOR THIS MEETING.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-250, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-020 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW VETERANS BUILDING) TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR BRONZE SCULPTURES TO HONOR THE MVSKOKE VETERANS AND FOR ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION COST; SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BARNETT**; **R. JONES** (\$948,980.00);

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-144, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT A SMALL GRANT SUPPORT CONTRACT TO THE OKLAHOMA ARTS COUNCIL FOR THE NATION TO OBTAIN FUNDING FOR THE UPCOMING RED FORK FESTIVAL, SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-145, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF ON BEHALF OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TO EXECUTE A TRIBAL LEASE AND OPTION AGREEMENT WITH INFOLAB, INC. TO LEASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE EUFAULA INDIAN HEALTH CENTER, SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-147, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A SPECIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND WATASHE AND ASSOCIATES, LLC, SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-148, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SAFETY MANUAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**; CO-SPONSOR: **J. GREENE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-149, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE PLAQUE TO BE DISPLAYED AT THE CONCESSION STAND TO BE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NUYAKA RIDING CLUB IN THE MEMORY OF **ROBYN JOHNSON**, A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN, SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-150, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **GLORIA (FACTOR) LOWE** TO SERVE ON THE ELECTION BOARD OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION,

- APPROVED (23-0-0), TR 06-151, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **MALEYA TAYLOR** TO SERVE ON THE ELECTION BOARD OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) TR 06-152, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO HIRE LEGAL COUNSEL TO FILE TRUST CLAIMS AGAINST THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-153, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO APPLY FOR A TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT TO RELOCATE THE TRAIL ON RIVERSIDE DRIVE TO ALONG THE ARKANSAS RIVER, SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR: **R. JONES**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-155, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN OIL AND GAS MINING LEASE - TRIBAL INDIAN LANDS ON 38.03 ACRES OF TRIBAL TRUST PROPERTY LOCATED IN McINTOSH COUNTY, SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**; CO-SPONSOR: **T. McINTOSH**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-156, A

TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO DEFINE AND AUTHORIZE AN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE TULSA CASINO DEVELOPMENT, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 06-160, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT MODEL OF THE HISTORIC CREEK TOWN ETVLWA FOR THE CAPITAL COMPLEX, SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** (\$8,000.00);

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER** WAS EXCUSED

SECOND SPEAKER **ROGER BARNETT** CONDUCTED THE MEETING; REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS EXCUSED;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (12-9-0) NCA 06-207, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 36, § 3-102.L., MCNCA TITLE 22 § 6-102.C AND § 6-102.D. AND MCNCA TITLE 35, § 5-101.5.C. TO REFLECT THAT THE AGE DEFINITION FOR SENIOR CITIZEN” AND THAT IT WILL ALSO APPLY TO OTHER TRIBALLY-FUNDED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UNDER THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION’S UMBRELLA OF SERVICES, SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**, CO-SPONSOR: **S. ALEXANDER**;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, **PETE BEAVER**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JAMES JENNINGS**, **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, **THOMAS YAHOLA**, **PAULA WILLITS**, **RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

- APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-209, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION FOR THE LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE, SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. McINTOSH**; **A. NOTARO** (\$10,800.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **SHIRLENE ADE** WAS EXCUSED;

- APPROVED (15-5-0) NCA 06-222, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-132 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A LIQUOR AND BEVERAGE CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, “TAXATION AND REVENUE,” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION), SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**;

VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE**, **JEFF FIFE**, **JAMES JENNINGS**, **THOMAS YAHOLA** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-1-0) NCA 06-229, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION THROUGH WES WATKINS TECHNOLOGY CENTER AND HASKELL INDIAN NATION FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENTS, SPONSORS: **THOMAS YAHOLA**, CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ADE**; **D. HARJO**; **R. JONES** (\$40,000);

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE**;

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-238, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT A POLITICAL CANDIDATE WHO IS A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN AND WILL ADVOCATE FOR THE BEST INTEREST OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** (\$1,000.00);

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-239, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE OKLAHOMA ARTS COUNCIL GRANT FOR THE UPCOMING RED FORK FILM FESTIVAL, SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE** (\$2,500.00);

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-241, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A SPECIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WATASH AND ASSOCIATES, LLC. SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$80,000.00);

- APPROVED (18-2-0) NCA 06-242, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE NUYAKA RIDING CLUB TO ASSIST WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CONCESSION STAND FROM WHICH MONIES WILL BE USED TO BENEFIT YOUNG CHILDREN IN RIDING SAFELY, SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON** (\$2,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

- APPROVED (17-3-0) NCA 06-243, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)

NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST BEGGS HIGH SCHOOL IN COMPLETING ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PROJECTS, SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR: **R. BARNETT** (\$20,047.06);

VOTING NO WERE: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, **RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-244, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EXPENSES, SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR: **J. JENNINGS** (\$2,479.00);

- APPROVED (19-1-0) NCA 06-245, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE MIDDLE CREEK #2 INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA** (\$44,675.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (18-2-0) NCA 06-247, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PERMITTING TRIBAL CITIZENS TO HUNT, FISH AND GATHER ON TRIBAL GOVERNMENT LANDS, SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**; CO-SPONSOR: **R. JONES**;

VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-248, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-118 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION COMMUNITY CENTERS TO PURCHASE COMPUTER-TO-TELEVISION INTERFACE SYSTEMS FOR INTERNET MONITORING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO VIEW MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL) TO INCREASE THE FUNDING AMOUNT TO COVER ALL COMMUNITY CENTERS, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$39,550.00);

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-249, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE “FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME” ORGANIZATION FOR ACTIVITIES, SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** (\$50,000.00);

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-251, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MOUND BUILDING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE PURCHASE OF MONUMENT SIGNS, SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES** (\$16,416.00);

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-252, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE 24 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CHARTERED COMMUNITIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF ENHANCING AND ENRICHING THE 2006 CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES FOR CITIZENS, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **L. WIND**; **S. ADE**; **P. BEAVER** (\$48,000.00);

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-253, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO 16 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CEREMONIAL GROUNDS TO ASSIST WITH PROVIDING CHRISTMAS TO CREEK FAMILIES, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **L. WIND**; **S. ADE**; **P. BEAVER** (\$4,800.00);

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-0-0) NCA 06-254, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO TRADITIONAL CREEK INDIAN CHURCHES TO ASSIST WITH PROVIDING CHRISTMAS TO CREEK FAMILIES, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **L. WIND**; **S. ADE**; **P. BEAVER** (\$30,000.00);

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-0-0) NCA 06-256, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING NCA 04-126 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR OVER INCOME FAMILIES), AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 35, CHAPTER 6 TO ELIMINATE INCOME-SPECIFIC GUIDELINES AND AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO FUND REMAINING APPLICANTS FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR, SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (16-4-0) NCA 06-257, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING

NCA 06-205 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET WITH EXCLUSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LaGRONE**, **BILL FIFE**, **JEFF FIFE**, AND **BO JOHNSON**;

NOV. 27 EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT ARE: **LARRY BIBLE**, **ROBERT JONES** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT** WERE EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-159, TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO INSTALL TWENTY DIGITAL VIDEO SYSTEMS IN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CASINOS, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-160, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO INSTALL FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS IN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CASINOS, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-262, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE INSTALLATION OF FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS IN THE CASINOS WITHIN THE DUCK CREEK, EUFAULA AND OKEMAH COMMUNITIES AND IN THE EUFAULA COMMUNITY SMOKE SHOP, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**.

DEC. 7, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT ARE: **LARRY BIBLE**, **ROBERT JONES** AND **BO JOHNSON** WERE EXCUSED.

VETO MESSAGE:

- VETO (11-12-0) NCA 06-207, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 36, § 3-102.C AND § 6-102.D. AND MCNCA TITLE 35, § 5-101.5.C. TO REFLECT THAT THE AGE DEFINITION FOR “SENIOR CITIZEN” HAS BEEN REVISED TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM’S DEFINITION OF “SENIOR CITIZEN” AND THAT IT WILL ALSO APPLY TO OTHER TRIBALLY-FUNDED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UNDER THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION’S UMBRELLA OF SERVICES, RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO**, **TOM PICKERING**, **THOMAS McINTOSH**, **PETE BEAVER**, **LENA WIND**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JAMES JENNINGS**, **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, **THOMAS YAHOLA**, **PAULA WILLITS**, **RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-165, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO JOIN A LAWSUIT TO CHALLENGE TO PROPOSED NIGC REGULATIONS ON CLASS II GAMING AND AUTHORIZING COMPOSITION OF THE LITIGATION TEAM, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

- APPROVED (19-3-0) TR 06-166, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND NEVADA GOLD TULSA, INC. TO TERMINATE THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT AND ANY OTHER RELATIONSHIP, SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE**, **RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED (20-2-0) NCA 06-269, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE ANGEL TREE PROJECT, SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER** (\$1,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING** AND **LENA WIND**.

Correction:
In the December 2006 issue of the Muscogee Nation News, Tom Pickering, McIntosh District Representative, was listed as absent during the Quarterly session on October 28, 2006. Representative Pickering was present for this meeting. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

TulsaPromotions



CASINO PROMOTIONS:

ROAD TRIP TO RICHES (LADIES NIGHT)

Ladies, hit the road in style with a 2007 Honda Civic Coupe, \$1,200 Marriott gift Card, \$500 for gas, and \$5,000 in cash. Swipe your card at Guest Services for our Road Trip to Riches promotion beginning at 5 p.m. each Monday. Every fifteen minutes from 6 pm to 10 pm a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two ladies with the most money after the 10 pm drawing will earn a key to return for the big giveaway on March 26. (Mondays starting at 5 p.m., through March 26)

BIG LEAGUE FANTASY (MEN’S NIGHT)

Guys, Creek Nation Casino is here to fulfill every sports fan’s dream with our Big League Fantasy promotion! Just swipe your card at Guest Services each Wednesday beginning at 5 p.m. Every fifteen minutes from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two guys with the most money after the 10 p.m. drawing

will earn a certificate to return on February 7 for our College Fantasy Package including trips to the College World Series, BCS National Championship Game, and NCAA Final Four! (Wednesdays starting at 5 p.m., through March 28)

SENIORS WAKE UP AND WIN

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino every Monday and Tuesday! From 7 am to 11 am, the first 500 seniors will receive \$5 match play on selected machines and \$4 off the Full Moon Café’s \$5.99 breakfast buffet. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino’s Wake Up and Win promotion? (Mondays and Tuesdays, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m.)

POKER PROMOTIONS:

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold’em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 p.m. and receive an extra \$20 for every player you

eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma’s most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9:30 a.m. The tournaments are open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$50.00.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD’EM TOURNAMENTS

Ladies Night Texas Hold’em tournaments start at 7 p.m. every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

MEN’S NIGHT – THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino’s Men’s Night no-limit Texas Hold’em tournament starts at 7 pm every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 p.m. (\$115 total buy-in). Now with an extra \$1,000 added to the pot each week!

TEXAS HOLD’EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS

Losing Never Felt So Good! Creek Nation Casino’s new Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots consist of three separate progressive jackpots awarded to hands of aces full of jacks losing to a better hand. The jackpot is currently at \$50,000!

TEXAS HOLD’EM HIGH HANDS

Good hands are hard to come by, and at Creek Nation Casino, Texas Hold’em high hands pay bonuses 24 hours a day, seven days a week with progressive bonuses on four of a kind, straight flush, and royal

flush hands increasing \$100 a day.

MONTHLY MONSTER POKER TOURNAMENT

Don’t miss our Monthly Monster No-Limit Texas Hold’em Tournament on the first Tuesday of each month. Register beginning at 5:30 pm, with a \$330 Buy-in. Satellite tournaments available daily, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

FIVE STACKS OF HIGH SOCIETY \$50,000 FREE ROLL POKER TOURNAMENT

Be one of the top 40 players with the most hours or most tournament points to be awarded a seat into our Five Stacks of High Society \$50,000 Free Roll Poker Tournament. Plus one lucky person will be drawn for the wild card spot. Earn additional entries every time you buy in. See Poker Room for more details.

BLACKJACK PROMOTIONS:

CLUB 21

Join the club, and earn your share of \$23,500 each week during our “Club 21” promotion in the blackjack pit. Club 21 occurs every Monday through Thursday with half hour cash drawings for \$250 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Come back on Sundays during the same time as we up the ante and we award three winners each hour \$500. All players will earn a \$10 bonus for suited blackjack of clubs and everyone else at the table earns our famous \$5 Envy Bonus. If you receive a suited blackjack of clubs or buy in for \$100 you will receive an entry into the Sunday through Thursday drawings. (Sunday – Thursday)

MNBE Fire and Security/Technology Services

OKMULGEE -- MNBE consists of three divisions, Technology Services, Staffing Services and Construction department. The Technology Services area is currently managed by B.J. Waggner, his staff consists of seven Technicians and One Sales Representative in which 50 percent are creek citizens.

The Technology Services currently maintains all surveillance and fire alarm systems for the Creek Nation Casinos. They have just completed expansion

for the Eufaula Casino and are currently working on the Okemah Casino expansion. Perspective projects are the Duck Creek and Holdenville Casinos and hopefully a major portion of the Tulsa Casino Expansion.

The Technology Service Department also conducts a large amount of work for the Executive Branch of the Creek Nation. In 2006 alone, MNBE’s Technology Service Department trenched and bored over 1200 feet to lay a 600 pair phone cable or backbone enabling the executive branch to expand their current phone system as they continue to grow. In

the past year the Executive Branch has added three new buildings and anticipate two new buildings as well as a four story administrative building, without the new backbone communication growth for our nation would be impossible.

MNBE also does work for other Tribes such as Kaw Nation and Sac-N-Fox. Kaw Nation built a new casino and MNBE did 1.2 million dollars worth of work consisting of almost all their low voltage from data, fiber, access control and surveillance.

MNBE also provided the high tech access control that does finger print recognition for the Sac-N-Fox Casino.

MNBE to meet with General Electric

FLORIDA — General Electric officials has expressed interest in establishing a working relationship with MNBE Fire and Security/Technology services. BJ Waggner, Technol-

ogy Division Manager, and Dave Huggard, Account Executive, and Woody Anderson, Sales Manager plan to travel to the General Electric corporate offices in Boca Raton, Florida in the near future to discuss possible partnership.

“This business venture could prove to be a perfect match because of their wide variety of product lines,” said Waggner. “They deal with surveillance, fire/security, access control, and fiber just as we do.”

Bronze by Cooley

Bradley Cooley & Bradley Cooley Jr.

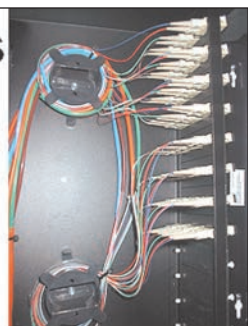


Commissions, Portraits, Table top, Life Size & Monumental sculptures
Email for a quote to
bradley@bronzebycooley.com
Phone 850-997-4680
www.bronzebycooley.com



Technology Services Division

- Burglary Detection
- CCTV
- Access Control
- Intercoms
- Network Cabling
- Telephony
- Fiber Systems



MNBE participated in the Salvation Army’s Toy Run



pictured Mark Whitree with the trailer of toys

OKMULGEE -- Mark Whitree, a employee at the MNBE Technology Services Division rode in the Salvation Army’s Toy Run. Approximately 12 employees donated enough toys to pull a trailer and participate in the Toy Run.

OSU-Okmulgee's Orthotics and Prosthetics Clinic receive support from Creek Diabetic Patients

By OSU - Okmulgee

Okmulgee -- Through a partnership between Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee's Orthotics & Prosthetics Clinical Center and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, citizens of the Creek Nation who have diabetes now have access to orthotic and prosthetic care. Proper orthotics and quality prosthetics are major components in battling the ill effects of diabetes.

Keeper Johnson, a National Council Member for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, had a vision to help improve the quality of

the Creek Nation supplements Medicare for tribal patients, the clinic is open to the public.

Betsy Hill, a member of the Creek Nation, has benefited from a prosthetic leg made at OSU-Okmulgee's clinic. Hill, who is a resident of Eufaula, says she needed a prosthetic leg after an amputation. "I had a neuropathy on my foot due to diabetes, then I stepped on a thorn and an infection developed. The only treatment was amputation. I've had prosthetic legs made at other clinics in the past, but they weren't comfortable. The

very critical disease for Native Americans. Over the years, when I was a vocational rehabilitation counselor, I saw people at different facilities who had amputations and were wearing ill-fitting or old shoes because they couldn't afford anything better." When Johnson decided to help diabetic Creek citizens, he and Wilson devised a plan for OSU-Okmulgee's clinic to provide orthotics and prosthetics for these patients. Johnson proceeded to get statistics on the numbers of Creek citizens who are diabetic or amputees from John-



Standing in OSU-Okmulgee's Orthotics and Prosthetics Clinic are (left to right): Jerry Wilson, Shelley Perkins, Keith Crownover, Betsy Hill, Chief A.D. Ellis, Johnnie Brasuell, Dr. Bob Klabenes, Jesse Colbert, Keeper Johnson.

life for Creek citizens who have had limbs amputated due to complications from diabetes. He introduced legislation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and was successful in obtaining more than half a million dollars for OSU-Okmulgee's Clinic to make orthotics and prosthetics for diabetic Creek citizens. The funding is administered through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Diabetes Prevention Program. It supplements Medicare's payments for Creek Nation patients.

"I spearheaded this effort because of my desire to serve the Creek people and my interest in diabetes patients' care, since I myself am diabetic," said Johnson.

Johnson is aware that oftentimes, amputees have orthotics, prosthetics or diabetic shoes made but will not wear them if they cause discomfort, and often they have no source to pay for an artificial limb. Jerry Wilson, chair of OSU-Okmulgee's Health and Environmental Technologies Division, says the mission of the university's orthotics and prosthetics clinic is to help save people's limbs. Wilson adds that Orthotics and Prosthetics are prevention and treatment methods used for diabetics. "There are many Native Americans who have either lost a limb or are at risk of losing a limb due to diabetes. We want to help keep the Native American population healthy. OSU-Okmulgee's clinic provides services for those who have had a limb amputated and to prevent others from losing a limb."

Statistics show there are more than 2,000 diabetic Creek Nation citizens in OSU-Okmulgee's immediate service area. The university's Orthotics and Prosthetics Clinic has treated many patients since it opened a few months ago. Although

prosthetic leg that I'm wearing was made at OSU-Okmulgee's clinic -- it's very comfortable and doesn't squeak when I walk."

Orthotic and prosthetic treatment involves a practitioner evaluating patients. Then, the technician fabricates and the practitioner custom-fits the artificial limb or the orthopedic brace to meet the patient's needs. An orthosis is an external support for the body and can help people regain lost function. A prosthesis is an artificial limb, including fingers, hands, arms and legs.

OSU-Okmulgee's orthotics and prosthetics students serve as interns in the clinic as a component of their education. There are currently 14 students in the program, and many more are needed to fill the industry shortage nationwide.

"Nearly 70% of amputations performed on diabetics could be prevented with proper foot care," Wilson observes. "Diabetics need to wear extra-depth comfort shoes, including custom-made foot orthotics, which are designed to relieve pressure on foot ulcers and to keep them from worsening and becoming infected to the point that amputation is the only alternative." Wilson added that amputations cost an average of \$75,000 per operation, while proper foot care can cost as low as \$400. A patient of OSU-Okmulgee's Orthotics and Prosthetics Clinic, Jesse Colbert, Jr., a member of the Creek Nation who lives in Eufaula, says the director of the clinic Shelley Perkins, C.O., C.Ped., and her staff worked diligently to get a proper fit for his orthotics. "These are the only orthotics I have ever wanted to wear every day. They're very comfortable."

Johnson knows the benefits of having orthotics custom-made to prevent the disabling effects of diabetes. "Diabetes is a

nie Brasuell, the director of the Diabetes Prevention Program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Then, he asked Chief A.D. Ellis at Muscogee (Creek) Nation for support in getting the legislation passed. "Chief Ellis agreed to support anything that would improve Creek citizens' health care because the clinic's services have been needed by Creek citizens for many years," adds Johnson.

Wilson says that because of Johnson's work to earn funding for the clinic's services, many Creek citizens will have a better quality of life. "We thank Keeper Johnson for his vision to help us develop this program. He is making a difference for many Creek citizens everyday through his work to secure funding for this program."

About OSU-Okmulgee's New Orthotics and Prosthetics Technician Program OSU-Okmulgee announced a new Orthotics and Prosthetics Technician Program last summer to provide students with multiple skill sets, including technician skills, fitting skills, and pedorthic fabrication skills. Graduates of this new program will find jobs in three categories: as a technician, fitter or Pedorthist. The vision of this comprehensive educational effort is to provide educational opportunities for persons seeking pre-certification coursework in pedorthics, technician training, certification in fitting and clinical internships. This new program will prepare world-class, high performance technical professionals for the orthotics, prosthetics and pedorthics community.

For more information, call (918) 293.4678 or 1.(800) 722.4471. Information also is available online at www.osu-okmulgee.edu.

Hop to Stop Diabetes Jump Rope Programs seeks additional school participation

OKEMAH — The MCN Diabetes Program is providing an after school jump rope program for the students at Mason School and Okemah Middle School. At Mason thirty 2nd – 8th grade students are participating and at Okemah Middle sixty 4th – 8th grade students are practicing one day per week after school. The students learn many different jump rope tricks and skills such as single rope, double-dutch, and partner jumping during practice each week. Diabetes prevention lessons on good nutrition and the importance of being physically active are taught throughout the program. Nike prizes are awarded each practice for students who are practicing their jump rope at home and for different jump rope competitions during practice. Each jump rope team will travel to perform a jump rope show for basket-

ball halftimes and elementary students at different schools throughout the year. Staff members from both schools are helping to facilitate the program and they will be



coordinating the program next year. The funding for the program is being provided through a grant received from the Indian Health Service Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Program.

The Okemah team is scheduled

to perform at the Okemah High School basketball game on January 19th and the Mason team will perform at the Mason High School basketball game on January 30th. During the month of February, the students will be participating in the American Heart Association's "Jump Rope for Heart". The student will be raising money for the Heart Association and jumping rope for the money they raise at the Jump Rope for Heart health fair held at each school in March. The Diabetes Program will be looking for two new schools

for the jump rope program next year. If you would like to see the program started at your school, contact the Diabetes Program at 1-800-219-9458 ext. 458 and we will contact the school administration to see if they will work with us to start the program.

DOCTORS NOTE:

Small Steps to better health
by Zack Anderson, DO/CMO

The MCNHS would like to take this opportunity to say Happy New Year! Also, it is a good time to look at changes that would benefit your health. Is your New Year's resolution to lose weight? Most people believe you have to go on a diet to lose those extra pounds. The truth is that dieting is the worst way to lose weight. We can lose weight by depriving ourselves of particular foods, but what happens when we return to our usual eating pattern? We gain all the weight back. What is the answer to weight loss? Lifestyle changes. Any person who wants to lose weight and keep it off needs to make lifestyle changes their resolution, not dieting.

What are lifestyle changes? Simple things you can do at your own pace to lose weight and get on the right path towards good health. Here are ideas to get you started on changing eating habits.

Eat less of high calories foods like doughnuts, cakes, cookies and pies.

Drink less of high calorie beverages like regular soda pop.

When you eat out choose the smaller sizes of food choices or share your order.

Looking at these examples using this 154-pound man (5'10") walking at a 3 mph pace:

12 oz Classic Coke (140 calories): walk at 3 mph pace for 35 minutes (1.75 miles)

Original glazed Krispy Kreme doughnut (205 calories)*: walk at 3 mph pace for 51 minutes (2.5 miles)

One piece of pecan pie (503 calo-

ries): walk at 3 mph pace for 125 minutes (6.25 miles)

For most people, it's difficult to lose weight by only changing eating habits. It's important to begin to move more. When you exercise regularly, you begin to turn fat into lean muscle. Lean muscle burns more calories, so making exercise a part of your daily routine will make the weight come off faster. Here are some ideas to increase your physical activity.

Move more. Take a 10-minute walk each day.

If you can't go outside, dance for 10 minutes in your home. Ride an exercise bike for 10 minutes. Walk on a treadmill for 10 minutes.

Increase your walking as part of your daily activities. Park at the far end of the parking lot and walk to the store. Take a walking break at work.

If you cannot walk, contact the exercise manager at your clinic's Diabetes Program for information on chair exercises.

Small steps lead to big changes. Pick one eating change and one physical activity change. Begin to do them regularly. Losing 2-3 pounds a month does not seem like a lot, but if you do that each month for a year it is 24-36 pounds in a year. It will not only decrease your weight but it will improve your overall health. These are only a few suggestions. I would like to say MTVO to Connie Fox R.D. and Sharon Iverson R.D. MCNHS Diabetes Dietitians for their input and dedication to improving patient health. Also, MTVO to the citizens for allowing the MCNHS to share this information with you.

First Fun Day for Walking Program participants

A new year has started and 800 American Indians from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation communities are participating in the first year of the Mvskokvlke "Nene Hvkoce – Muscogee Trails" Walking Program. The MCN Walking program has ended their sign-up period for the first year with an overwhelming response from the

will continue to log their steps, exercise time, and running distance each month until the end of the program in June. At the end of the program, we are encouraging all the participants to sign up for the Creek Festival 5k run/walk as an end of the year event.

In July, we will give out the large in-



5 hospital/clinic areas (Okemah, Eufaula, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, and Koweta).

The Walking Program held their last sign ups during the months of December and January and starting in February they will hold a Saturday Fun Day each month in each clinic area.

centives which include t-shirts, Nike shoes, Nike warm up suits, and chances to win a treadmill. After the year has concluded, a walking trail will be award a community in each area to be built by the MCN Roads Division the following year.

If you are a Walking Program par-



These Fun Days will include an opportunity for participants to pick up their monthly Nike prizes, receive information on different topics on exercise and nutrition, and get together to play games and have fun moving. All participants receive 30 bonus points each month for participating in the monthly Fun Days.

The Walking Program participants

ticipant and you have any questions, please call you local Walking Program contact person listed: Okemah area Scott Robison, (800) 219-9458, ext. 458; Okmulgee area Irene Culley, (918) 756-9911, ext. 334; Koweta area William Fixico, (800) 219-9458 Ext. 458; Sapulpa area William Fixico, (918) 224-9310, ext. 238; Eufaula area Kimberlee Little, (918) 689-2540 Ext. 257.

You Can Quit Smoking

By Marcus Proctor

OKMULGEE — Have you made your New Year's Resolution? Why not make quit smoking one of your most important New Years' Resolutions not to mention a life changing decision.

According to the Centers of Disease and Control (CDC) smoking harms nearly every organ of the body, causing many diseases and reducing the health of smokers in general. Quitting smoking has immediate as well as long-term benefits for you and your loved ones.

The Muscogee Nation Tobacco Prevention Program and the MCN Health Center's can help you and your love one's to stop smoking now! For more information call one of the five Health Centers today to start your New Year with fresh air: Eufaula Health Center, 918-689-2547; Koweta Indian Health Center, 918-279-3200; Okemah Health System, 918-623-1424; Okmulgee Health Center, 918-758-2717; Sapulpa Health Center, 918-224-9310.
Mvto and live a smoke free life!

HOUSING POLICY UPDATE

In 1996 legislation was passed to allow the tribes to become recipients of Housing Funds which had previously been funded to tribes through a state created agency.

With the passage of NAHASDA, Native American Housing and Self Determination Act of 1996 P.L. 104 -330, tribes were able to create programs specific to their needs and set policy for those programs. Tribes were also allowed to give preferences to their tribal citizens in providing services.

Policies are a requirement by HUD and do have certain regulations that must be adhered to. However when needed policies are changed to best meet the needs of the citizens.

In 2006 the Muscogee (Creek) National Council approved policy changes that could affect the eligibility and other services that may be provided to citizens.

All services are contingent of being eligible for services according to approved policies.

The following changes made that will affect the Eligibility, Admissions and Occupancy

Ranking preference:

- 1) Eligible Creek citizens who are involuntarily displaced by government agencies or natural disasters, including fires.
- 2) 4/4 Creek large families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled handicapped.
- 3) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled handicapped 1/2 or more.
- 4) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped less than 1/2
- 5) Single 4/4 Creek Citizen
- 6) Single less than 4/4 Creek Citizen
- 7) Other Indian Tribes

TR 06-168

The legislation allows citizens who live in substandard housing (privately owned) to apply for homeownership. (Previously you had to be a 1st time homeowner and although your home was substandard, you were not eligible to apply.)

TR 06-133

Amended the policy to allow restricted property to remain in restricted status and a 25 year lease be requested to the Realty/Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Trust Restricted or special consideration of land status, only a presumptive heir will be

considered as a subsequent home buyer and may apply for services as a presumptive heir.

TR 06-089

Former home buyers, Mutual Help or Lease with Option, may be eligible if they have not participated in the program for 15 years, it also allows for the elderly, (62 and older) who own a home out of the Creek jurisdiction and wish to return to the area shall not be precluded from applying, contingent on the disposal of the present home.

Previously, if you owned a home Mutual Help or Lease with Option to Purchase you could not to apply for the homeownership program. Policy previously stated you must be a first time home buyer.

TR 06-092

The Emergency Repair program was amended with a clause that the program can assist with the deductible amount when the family carries their own homeownership insurance.

TR 06- 064

Amended the policy to allow assistance to be provided to non-low income Native Americans to the extent allowed if assistance can not be reasonably met without such assistance, (however a non-income (80% to 100 of the Median income), cannot receive the same assistance as a low income participant, since the program is primarily for low income (as defined by HUD), Native Americans.

TR 06-059

Changed the definition of income to allow for the use of the Census, Section 8 or the IRS definition of income to be used. The definition to be used wills 1 is the one most advantageous to the applicant/homebuyer/tenant.

Previous policy stated that Census definition would be used.

TR 05-092

Amended the Emergency Repair Program: Previously you could only receive services if you had not received services in 8 years; the amendment waives the 8 year period for Handicap facilities and other health and safety situations.

If you have any questions about the policies, you may call the Housing Offices at 918-752-3207 .



Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

Indoor air may be health hazard

When most people think of air pollution they typically think outdoor air but indoor air pollution may cause more health problems because of the higher concentration of pollutants, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Since most people spend 90 percent of their time indoors and often more during the winter months, making sure of the air quality in your home should be a reason for concern.

Trying to identify all the possible indoor air pollutants is difficult but you can take some simple steps to help keep your indoor air as pollutant free as possible

If family members are having headaches or suffering from nausea or allergies, you may need to ask your doctor if these could be reactions to pollutants.

Taking the following steps will help increase your indoor air quality:

Make your home as air-tight as possible. Air-tight houses help keep out dangerous pollutants from the outside air and soil and when equipped with proper ventilation filter out the indoor air.

Combustion appliances require ventilation from the source. Furnaces and stoves should be directly vented to remove moisture and combustion bi products.

Bathrooms should have exhaust fans to pull moisture outside. Moisture collecting in the house can become a source of mold which is a known health risk for some people.

Clothes dryers should be vented to the outdoors.

Seal cracks and insulate walls to prevent pollutants soil-like radon-from entering the house. Use cement grout or caulk to seal visible cracks in foundation walls or floors.

Check and clean your furnace every year to prevent damaged heat exchangers or blocked flues from spewing pollutants into indoor air.

Change furnace filters frequently. The filters not only protect the furnace equipment, but high-quality filters can also trap pollutants.

Install a carbon monoxide detector in your home. Unlike some other pollutants, you won't know when carbon monoxide is in the air until it's too late because it is colorless and odorless.

Paints, solvents, household cleaners and air fresheners can contain pollutants. Use them with windows open and exhaust fans on.

If you need to remove lead paint from your home's walls and ceilings, call a professional. The removal process can cause serious health risks if not done properly.

HEALTH TIP

ELECTROSTATIC FILTERS

Using an electrostatic air filter in your heating and cooling units may help to provide cleaner air in your home. This type of filter can be up to 30 times more effective than the ordinary fiberglass filter. The electrostatic filter costs up to \$20 per filter, but is reusable. Electrostatic air filters use an electrostatic charge to trap more dust, smoke and pollen particles that act as irritants in your home. For allergy sufferers, this type of filter is an effective, affordable alternative to electronic air cleaners.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Contracting/Employment Opportunities

If you live in HUD assisted housing you may qualify as a section 3 resident or a section 3 business and may be eligible for contracting and/or employment opportunities. Please contact Mr. Alan Kelley at 918-752-3249 for more information.

Ethanol Energy promoted by tribal citizen

by Claude Sumner, Executive Director
OKMULGEE — National Council Representatives Sylvanna Caldwell and her husband Lynn visited Principal Chief A.D. Ellis in August, 2006, to promote the idea of manufacturing ethanol energy for use by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government and citizen's vehicles.

Chief Ellis encouraged further research and development of the ideas necessary to establish the manufacturing capabilities by the Creek Nation and by individual Creek citizens. A distribution system within the Creek Nation for ethanol energy to reduce the cost of vehicle fules would also be considered.

Representative Caldwell has promoted the idea to her fellow members of the National council who have joined in her enthusiasm for the potential of such a project. Representative Caldwell and her husband have purchased an ethanol energy still from the company in Arkansas and have begun production of ethanol. Caldwell has begun to use the ethanol in his lawnmower and other engines to test validity of ethanol use with its considerable cost savings. The Cadewlls have hosted multiple meetings at their house to show the working still to encourage first hand knowledge of the simplici



Caldwell

ethanol production.
The Caldwells have always included Representative Dale Turner from Holdenville, of the Oklahoma State Legislature in their meetings. Representative Turner, in 2004, initiated the Oklahoma Law encouraging production of ethanol with financial incentives. Turner says the Senate Bill 878 and House Bill 1217 were meant to encourage ethanol processing, marketing, development, promotions, distribution and research. He indicated that, in 2004, 1.4 billion gallons of ethanol are produced in the United States each year in comparison to 149.8 million of gasoline being burned by drivers each year.

Representative Turner assisted the Executive Director in setting a meeting with the Oklahoma Department of Enviroinmental Quality (DEQ) to discuss the State rules that would govern ethanol production in the State of Oklahoma. Representative Dale Turner, Colonel Wilson, from Arkansas and serveral Muscogee (Creek) Nation representatives attended a meeting hosted by DEQ in Oklahoma City September 2006. Since DEQ does not control activities on tribal trust land, serveral DEQ representatives including it's Director explained the issues and concerns

for the environment associated with the production of ethonal as a motor fuel for information purposes. The meeting was very sucessful in aquainting tribal official with issues necessary to consider in ethanol production.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill has been researching ethanol production issues for several months and is currently collaborating with other tribal officials in developing strategy for ethanol production, distribution and use within the Nation.

This article is written to encourage citizens with an interest in production, and distribution or use of ethanol as a motor fuel to contact the Executive Director for information and involvement in further development of a program that would assist the Nation in the development of a alternative fuel that would provide cost savings to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government and citizens. A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Education Room on the first floor of the Muscogee Creek Nation Housing Division building to explain how to obtain permits for production and provide other information toward encouraging citizens or tribal government officials in setting up production capabilities to provide citizenry and governmental needs for ethnaol fuel.

Interested parties may write to the Executive Director at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447 or call (918) 732-7612.

State Commissioners recognize Tribal Administration efforts

OKMULGEE

— At a recent ceremony held at the Tribal Capital Complex, Hughes County Commissioners Clyde Collis, Gary Gray, and Jerry Martin presented recognition plaques to Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Jack Chaney Tribal Engineer, and Ben Chaney Transportation Manager in appreciation for funding provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Roads Program,

for the Tookpafka Road Project in Holdenville. The tribe funded \$1.5 million towards the 8.5 mile road known as Calvin North.

Jack Chaney Tribal Engineer wanted to express his thoughts, about the road project, “The Tribe has a excellent working relationship with all county commissioners in the Creek Nation boundaries, they always do their part to help improve county roads.

“The Indian Reservation Roads Program (IRR) is responsible for the trust and administration of approximately \$6 million per year of Federal Highway Administration funds designated for the MCN through the program. These funds are for upgrading existing county, state, and federal roads and bridges determined by the Creek Nation Roads Committee to be in need by priority. The eleven counties with the jurisdictional boundaries of the nation are comprised of approximately 7,500 miles of county roads and 1,143 miles of state and federal highways.

The development of the Indian Reservation Roads Program (IRR) is a direct result of the Intermodal surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 and amended by the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century, Title 23, United States code (23 U.S.C) section 204 (a) stating: “The county roads with the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are comprised of approximately 7,400 miles of roads, 1,143 miles of states and federal highways. Approximately 66% of the MCN Tribal Citizens live in the rural areas that are served by the County Road (IRR) System. Further, 82% of Indian churches, 100% of ceremonial grounds and 20% of the Indian community buildings are served by the county roads system.”



Pictured above, from left to right, is: Jerry Martin Hughes, County Commissioner District #3, Clyde Collis Hughes, County Commissioner District #1, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Gary Gray Hughes, County Commissioner District #2, Ben Chaney, Transportation Manager, and Jack Chaney, Tribal Engineer. **JESSICA COOK/MNN**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is currently recruiting for the following openings:
Health System Administrator - Sapulpa

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT:
The purpose of this position is to manage and direct the Sapulpa Indian Health Clinic located in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. The Sapulpa Clinic provides inpatient, outpatient emergency and general medical and dental services to the eligible Native Americans. The incumbent is responsible for day-to-day management, planning and organizing of health care delivery to eligible Native American citizens within designated service area. This is an exempt position as applicable to the provisions of the FLSA. The MNHS provides comprehensive health care services to Native Americans living within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Hospital (CNCH) and five (5) ambulatory health centers in Coweta, Eufaula, Okemah, Okmulgee, Sapulpa.

I.T. Site Manager - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to provide Computer Systems support for the Coweta Indian Health Clinic. Incumbent will be responsible for the installing and upgrading computer systems as designated and providing assistance and guidance in the technical and usage areas of computer operations throughout the Clinic. Day-to-day supervision and administrative support is provided by the Health System Administrator. IT support, guidance and direction will be provided by the information Resources Officer. This position is located at the Coweta Indian Health Clinic in Coweta.

Prevention Counselor “Youth Wellness Camp”

The purpose of this position is to assist with in-school and after-school outdoor experiential education activities and to ensure that information gets disseminated in a timely fashion. Incumbent reports to the Youth Wellness Camp Coordinator.

Public Health Nurse - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to provide multiple aspects of quality nursing and health care through community outreach efforts to prevent disease and to promote wellness within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS) service area. This position is located at the Coweta Health Center located in Coweta.

To apply for these positions contact the Human Resource Department at (918) 756-4333 or (800) 782-8291 ext. 279 or you can download an application by logging onto the website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Eufaula Indian Community pays Tribe for loan

OKMULGEE — On December 21, 2006 Jon Tiger, Chairman of the Eufaula Indian Community Center, and Tom Pickering, McIntosh District representative, presented a check in the amount of \$450,000 to Principal Chief A.D. Ellis toward a loan in the amount of \$700,000 the community had borrowed in 2005. The loan was used to purchase a 26,000 square foot skating rink, which is used as a business and also serves as a community center.

Eufaula Indian Community is one out few communities that has paid a loan in full. “I am greatly appreciative to the Nation helping with the community’s endeavors,” said Tiger. “I would like to thank Chief Ellis and anyone else that took part in the agreement. Eufaula Indian Community is glad to pay the tribe back.”

Chief Ellis was very excited about the working relationship with the Eufaula Indian Community. “I am very enthusiastic about working with the community again in the future,” said Chief Ellis.



Pictured above, from left to right, at the check presentation is: Second Chief Berryhill, Claude Sumner, Executive Director, Jon Tiger, Tom Pickering, McIntosh District Representative, and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. **JESSICA COOK/MNN**

MCN v. Leon Lish	Expired Tag Invalid Driver's License No Driver's License Driving without Required Registration
MCN v. Christopher Wheat MCN v. Colin Mayner	Expired Tag No Driver's License DUS Expired Tag Display No Insurance DUS No Seatbelt DUS No Insurance Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Marilyn Watashe	Disorderly Conduct Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Michael Stone	Expired Tag Expired Tag Expired Tag No Insurance Invalid Driver's License Expired Tag
MCN v. Tawayne Manous	No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance Driving Under Suspension Expired Tag Battery DUS Driving on Tribal Property without Insurance Verification No Seatbelt Expired Tag Driving on Tribal Property without Driver's License No Seatbelt DUS Safety Belt DUS
MCN v. Michael Mukhin	Expired Tag Possession of Illegal Drugs on Tribal Property Possession of Open Receptacle-Containing Alcohol
MCN v. Lequita Bailey	
MCN v. Billy Wayne Perry Jr. MCN v. John Kays MCN v. Jonathan Kestenbaum MCN v. Josh Jackson MCN v. Kenneth Stephens MCN v. Matthew Tanton MCN v. Adam Miller MCN v. Jeffery Rainbolt MCN v. Ronald Ponder	
MCN v. Elmer Pennington Jr.	
MCN v. Nick Campbell MCN v. Ronnie Battle Jr. MCN v. Dylan Baker MCN v. Adrienne Asberry MCN v. Amber Wallace MCN v. Gerard Romero MCN v. Donald Baker Jr.	
MCN v. Robert Brayton	
MCN v. Eric Drennon	
MCN v. Leroy Crawford MCN v. Larry Hood	

searching through family documents, my mother knows that her mother was born and raised in Coweta, OK. She worked in Tulsa from 1928 to 1937. During this period, she lived with her mother (Rosa Taylor). Around April, 1937 she moved to Los Angeles, California. Sometime in July, her children (Raymond, Earlie May and Gerline) joined her. Prior to that, my mother stayed with her aunt Nattie from April, 1936 until July, 1937.

In 1941 my grandmother met Daniel Sanders, an army mess sergeant stationed at March Air Force Base. Lucille and her children moved to San Bernardino, California in 1942. They would remain there while my step-grandfather served in the North African, Sicily and Italian campaigns. In the spring of 1945, they married. My grandfather was always called “grandpa Pon”. He was half creek and originated from Beggs, OK. After the war, the family moved back to Los Angeles and lived there for 47 years. My grandfather passed in 1988. My grandmother moved to Phoenix, Arizona in July, 1992 to live with my mother until her death in 1994. She was 90 at the time. Her two older children preceded her in death.

My mother’s aunts and uncles were Pearl Taylor Tucker of Coweta, born 1899 at Ft. Smith on the Arkansas River bank. Harry C. Taylor, Vinita, OK (1900-1962), Georgie Mae Taylor Perryman, Los Angeles, CA (1907-1998), and Herman Grant Taylor, Los Angeles, CA (1911-1981). All of them were born in Coweta, OK.

My mother’s grandparents were Rosa Grayson Taylor (1865-1937) and William Taylor (1866-1932). She was full-blooded Creek and from Coweta,

OK. Some records indicate that she was from Lochapoka. He was from Illinois and of Irish ancestry. They lived in Coweta until their deaths.

My mother’s great-grandparents were Mary Marshall (full-blood Creek) and Henry Grayson (full-blood Chickasaw). They died in 1921 respectfully. According to some documents, Mary was originally from Lochopoka. Both had lived in or around Broken Arrow and Coweta as adults. Mary and Henry’s children were Henry, Pete, Jim, Willie, Ben, Minnie, Rosa, and Lilly Ally Grayson.

Currently, my mother and her Uncle Herman’s daughter (Tina) are the only remaining members of that family. Georgie Taylor had a son, and is deceased. Pearl and Harry had no children. Lilly Grayson had a daughter, Nattie Walker. Nattie had no children.

Here are some questions my mother would like answered: What is the birth place, and date of birth for Mary Marshall Grayson, Henry Grayson, and Rosa Grayson Taylor? Who is William (Will) Taylor, what is his birth place, date of birth, and profession? Is aunt Georgie’s information on Bowman Childess correct? Does anyone have information on Bowman and Elwood Childess? Are there any additional relatives from the Grayson, Childess, and Taylor clans?

My mother has four sons, one daughter, six grandsons, one granddaughter, and eight great-grandchildren.

Finally, if anyone has any information regarding our family members, please forward that to Geraldine Lynch, 9201 W. Calderon, Phoenix, AZ 85037.

We thank you in advance for any assistance that may be provided. We are trying to fill in some of the blanks spaces, and complete our family genealogy.

College of the Muscogee Nation: In Pursuit of Instructional Excellence

by College of the Muscogee Nation Staff

OKMULGEE — Clearly the most important function of the College of the Muscogee Nation is instruction. Teaching for the tribal college reflects the ability of the faculty, quality of the academic program, and integrity of the institution. Students need and appreciate a well designed curriculum taught by experienced and capable instructors. At the College of the Muscogee Nation our instructors are selected based on education, experience, special skills, and knowledge. Instructors must first have depth of knowledge in the subject area and be capable of teaching students using a variety of methods including lecture, cooperative learning, small group work and individualized assistance.

At the beginning of the semester, students in each class are given a course syllabus defining the learning objectives, grading, class rules, and course schedule. Significant attention and planning are paid to the development of the course syllabus requiring prior approval by tribal college administrators to ensure its consistency with the college mission and

curriculum. The importance of the syllabus to our programs of study is that it determines how the class will be taught for the semester and the course contributes to a student's knowledge base in the degree plan.

Our instructors strive to create a comfortable learning atmosphere supportive of students, some of whom are attending college for the first time and require nurturing instructional guidance. Faculty use appropriate gestures and language to show their sensitivity by focusing on the learning needs of each and every student, spending time in the first few classes building student's confidence- making them feel welcome to the tribal college. We have found open communication is equally important to a student's success as well as retention, whether it involves the instructor facilitating communication among students or regular

discussions between instructors and students.

Another important aspect of instruction is grading, a critical element of teaching particularly to students. Student grades provide feedback to the instructor based on criteria that establishes the level at which students understand the facts and concepts of the respective subject. Grading as we all know is determined by a student's score on instructor developed tests. Our tests are not designed to fail students as many may think, but to accurately measure what a student has learned. Our main goal is to give tests that are an objective and fair assessment of student learning based on the activities of the course and consistent with the subject matter taught.

Near the end of the semester students evaluate the instructor and course content in each class

they attended. The primary purpose of the evaluation assessment is to determine the effectiveness of the instruction using a scientific approach. In class students are given an evaluation form with a series of items that provides a rating scale to determine the degree of course quality with the results used to identify areas where the class can be modified and improved if needed. Course evaluation is an integral component of the tribal college curriculum and essential for accreditation of the institution which validates our instruction and curriculum. The tribal college will continue to seek the opinion of students in our pursuit of quality teaching.

Beginning in the Fall Semester of 2004 the College Regents and staff identified the development of a coherent curriculum and utilization of relevant teaching techniques as crucial variables in the tribal college's pursuit of instructional excellence. Through extensive planning and preparation the tribal college can become a first class institution of higher education.

HOW TO FIND AND WIN SCHOLARSHIPS: PART 1

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

ALBUQUERQUE — Catching the Dream, formerly known as the Native American Scholarship Fund, makes grants to Native college students, and works to improve Indian schools. Since 1986, CTD has made scholarship awards to 780 students and has produced 552 graduates. Our retention rate is 83%, a very high rate compared to the 82% dropout rate that prevails nationwide with Native students. Contrary to what students often think, CTD rewards students for finding and winning scholarships. Many students think the fewer scholarships the find and win, the more we will like it. The opposite is true. The more scholarships you find and win, the more we like it, and the more money we will give you. Our ultimate goal is to have you being able to go to college with no loans and have your expenses totally covered.

Many students think they cannot afford to go to Stanford or Harvard. The total cost for a year at the Ivy League colleges is now \$42,000. But really solid, hardworking, dedicated, serious students can win enough money in scholarships to be able to attend Stanford or Harvard. The secret is scholarships.

We will help students with their scholarship search, with their scholarship planning, and with their essay. Please call us with any questions whatsoever. Nothing is too unimportant to ask us about. The only silly or stupid question is the one you do not ask. Please use us freely as a resource.

We require students to apply to all other sources of funds before they apply to CTD. This includes financial aid, college work study, Perkins and Stafford loans, tribal scholarships, and other scholarships. We want students to be able to go to Stanford Medical School, not have to take out any loans, and still be able to give their momma money.

We have students doing this now. You can do it too, if you are willing to do just a little work. One of our students is at Northern Arizona University. He did a thorough scholarship search and won 18 scholarships that pay him \$26,000 a year. His total college cost is \$12,000, so he has

\$14,000 left over. That is totally legitimate, and something we encourage.

If you saw a statement about CTD or NASF on any website or directory listing that says you must find and apply to a minimum of 15 scholarships to be eligible to apply to CTD, disregard it. The minimum is listed below. If you do not do a thorough scholarship search and make applications to them before you apply to CTD, we will hold your application for three years. At the end of three years, if you have still not completed the process, we will destroy your records. At any time during the three years that you complete the process, notify us, give us documentation of the places you have applied, and we will then process your application.

The maximum number of scholarships a student in the U. S. has won, apparently, was 200. Marianne Ragins in Macon, Georgia, in 1991 found 200 scholarships, applied to all 200, and won all 200. The total amount of money she won was \$315,000, which was much more than she needed. Her average amount per scholarship was \$1,575, which is about what you will find. It was such a feat that Parade magazine did a two-page spread on her.

It helped that she had a 4.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, and that she worked at a fast food restaurant 25 hours a week. Her father was deceased, and her mother was supporting the two of them on the meager salary of a seamstress. And it helped that she wanted to go to medical school.

Students should Google Marianne to learn what is on her website, and to learn the names of the three books she has had published since she finished college. If your library does not have these three books, request the librarian to order at least one of them. Marianne now spends all her time working with students on finding and winning scholarships.

Fastweb, the most comprehensive scholarship site, has over 600,000 scholarships in its database. We urge students to find all the scholarships they are eligible for, and apply to them. Scholarships are not all equal. The most popular fields for scholarships are engineering, and the

least popular fields are performing arts.

The following minimum numbers apply to the various fields. Students can easily exceed these numbers: Engineering - 60; Medicine - 45, Business - 40; Social science - 35 ; Education - 35; and Performing arts - 30.

FINDING SCHOLARSHIPS

There are four ways to find scholarships: (1) on the Internet, (2) using scholarship directories, (3) from your university, and (4) in your community. Motivated students will use all four methods.

THE INTERNET: The best and most comprehensive website is www.fastweb.com. Another excellent comprehensive site is www.scholarships.com. In addition to these two, there are hundreds of other sites. Some list one scholarship, and others list many. A student can always Google something like "Scholarships for Native Americans," or "Scholarships for Engineering," and go through the many sites that will appear.

But this method is counterproductive, highly inefficient, and frustrating. It is much better to use a comprehensive site. And contrary to conventional thinking, Native students should not look only for Native scholarships. The reason is simple; there are fewer than 200 Native scholarships in the Fastweb database, and only seven of them have real money. Native scholarships represent less than one-tenth of one percent of all scholarships.

The seven large ones, in order of money given away each year, are Gates Millennium (\$2 million), the American Indian College Fund (\$1 million), American Indian Science and Engineering Society (\$500,000), Catching the Dream (\$400,000), the American Indian Education Foundation (\$300,000), the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (\$100,000), and the Association on American Indian Affairs (\$40,000). After these seven, the amounts are very small.

The key to success in using the Internet is to have an adequate list of keywords. In addition to using Native American, American Indian, Indian, female/male, woman, and minority, students should use these eight master words to help them come up with a list of keywords. The eight master words are: Honors; Awards; Clubs; Elected positions; Appointed positions; Work

experience; Hobbies and Your major.

Students should send us their list of keywords before they run Fastweb so we can tell them whether or not we think it is adequate. It will also help greatly if the student sends us a resume.

These honors, awards, etc., apply at school, in your community, and at church. Elected positions are such things as class secretary, class senator, and student body president. Appointed positions are such things as editor of the yearbook, baseball team manager, etc. If you are not in any clubs now, join something. What you do now will follow you for the next 50 years. I am 65 years old, and am still sending out resumes.

Your major will not be just one word or phrase, either. For instance, if your major were nursing, you would use the following keywords, and perhaps others: nursing, registered nurse, nursing education, pediatric nursing, geriatric nursing, oncology nursing, surgical nursing, health care, medical care, health administration, medical administration, public health, and public health nursing.

If your major is business, you would use economics, finance, sales, marketing, business management, business administration, business leadership, hotel and restaurant management, accounting, retailing, and banking.

Once you run Fastweb, it will give you between 120 and 150 sources. Unfortunately, it is a keyword search only. There is no connection between the keywords, so students have to go through the list manually to determine which scholarships they are really eligible for. A nursing major in New Mexico, may pull up a nursing scholarship for the State of Idaho. You will have to rule that one out, however, since you do not live in Idaho. You may also pull up a nursing scholarship for Iowa State University, and you will have to rule that one out unless you plan to attend Iowa State.

What you will be left with is 30% to 40% of the 120 to 150 you started with. THIS IS YOUR POT OF GOLD! These 30 to 60 scholarships are the ones you are going to target to win the money you need for college. You should add to the ones you find on Fastweb by using the other three ways of finding them.

CONTINUED to SCHOLARSHIP on B2

Bacone College is proud to announce a new scholarship opportunity for Native Americans

MUSKOGEE — Students of Promise is a scholarship program for Native American students which was announced at the November meeting of the Bacone College Board of Trustees. The scholarship includes a 35% of tuition, room and board to any Native American student new to Bacone College, i.e., freshman, transfer, etc.

Students considered for the scholarship shall indicate their tribal affiliation on their application for admission and provide proof of enrollment



from their tribe, i.e., CDIB card, letter from tribal membership or enrollment office, etc.

Scholarship is open to federally recognized and non-recognized tribes.

Native Students receiving this scholarship will be residential students at Bacone College campus located in Muskogee.

For more information, contact Kyle Taylor, Director of Native Concerns and Native Recruitment, at (918) 781-7270, (918) 360-1085, or taylork@bacone.edu.

Harvard University free tuition announcement

CAMBRIDGE, MA. — Harvard University has announced that from now on undergraduate students from low-income families will pay no tuition.

In making the announcement, Harvard's president Lawrence H. Summers said, "When only 10 percent of the students in Elite higher education come from families in lower half of the income distribution, we are not doing enough. We are not doing enough in bringing elite higher education to the lower half of the income distribution."

If you know of a family earning less than \$60,000 a year with an honor student graduating


from high school soon, Harvard University wants to pay the tuition. The prestigious university recently announced that from now on undergraduate students from low-income families can go to Harvard for free, no tuition and no student loans! In addition, Harvard announces reduced fees for students from families with incomes between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

To find out more about Harvard offering free tuition for families making less than \$60,000 a year visit Harvard's financial aid website at: http://www.news.harvard.edu/gazette/daily/2006/03/30-finaid.html or call the school's financial aid office at (617) 495-1581.

Mvskoke Etlwv Nakcovv Mvhakv Svhlwecvt

COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION

In partnership with the Oklahoma State University System



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION
P.O. BOX 580 • PHONE: 918-758-1480 • FAX: 918-293-5313 • WEblink: http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
We are located on the OSU-Okmulgee campus in the Science & Technology building.

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Creek soccer player keeps kicking



SPORTS - B8

This generation's "Billy Jack" still a fighter



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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

January 2007

Native American History Series: Mvskoke Law Reporter "Mvskoke Vhakov Oh-Kerkuecv"

PROLOGUE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) GOVERNMENT PRE-COLUMBIAN TO 2005 *Patrick Edward Moore

Each Nation is an absolute Republic by itself, govern'd in all Public Affairs of War and Peace by the Sachems of old men, whose Authority and Power is gained by and consists wholly in the opinions of the rest of the Nation in their Wisdom and Integrity. They never execute their Resolutions by Compulsion or Force Upon any of their people. Honor and esteem are their principal Rewards, as Shame and being Despised are their Punishments. - *Cadwallader Colden, 1727*



Democracy had its roots in the Indigenous governments of the Pre-Columbian Americas. The concept developed in Native America aeons before the Norsemen and other Europeans arrived on these shores. These democracies were thriving before a lost Columbus landed on an island in the Caribbean and was saved by democratic people. Democracy eventually became known worldwide, but the inventors, the First Americans, were driven from their lands and branded uncivilized savages.

Since the beginning of memory¹ indigenous peoples of the Eastern North American Woodlands, who evolved into the Muscogee Confederacy, occupied an area now part of the present states of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and northern Florida. Recent archaeological discoveries of Pre-Columbian pottery in and along the Savannah River Valley of Georgia and South Carolina are now dated to be the oldest artifacts found in the western hemisphere of North America. Humans are now confirmed to have inhabited this region at least 52,000 years ago.²

This southeastern portion of now North America had all the necessities for a comfortable life. The land was criss-crossed by many rivers, supporting fresh water animals and water fowl, emptying into the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico. The woodlands were full of many species of wild game and its farmland ideal for cultivation of various corn varieties and numerous vegetables. Early residents also had access to both the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico, providing abundant marine food resources.

It was in this marvelous region that the early government of the Muscogee people had its origin. Pre-Columbian ceremonial towns were born and set the stage for the development of the Muscogee government.³

Muscogee Confederacy towns existing by the late 1700s have been variously estimated between 60 to 100. Many of these towns visited by Hernando De Soto in the Summer of 1539 were later abandoned or simply ceased to exist due to De Soto's ruthless military exploitation or the effects of diseases brought to the "New World" by his soldiers and servants.⁴

Muscogee ceremonial towns formed the Muscogee Confederacy and each town was known within the Confederacy as either a white⁵ or red⁶ town. Western indigenous travelers were able to tell from a great distance whether or not the town was red or white by the color of its buildings.

Oral histories passed down from ancient times to the present, reveal a culture so complex and orderly that a present day Ceremonial Ground, located in Oklahoma, would still be a familiar setting for a Muscogee, who lived thousands of years ago. An ancient Muscogee would be completely at home in Oklahoma during the ceremonial season.

Great detail, preparation and ceremony go into the basic functions of government. Each Ceremonial Ground has officers that correspond to a modern President or Governor, Legislator, Administrator, Judges and Soldiers or Policemen.

By the late 1700s Alexander McGillivray, a man of great mental and leadership ability,⁷ who also was a member of the influential Wind Clan⁸ began to fine tune the Muscogee government. He was well versed in French, English, Spanish and the Muscogee languages, he was also gifted with a remarkable ability to diplomatically manipulate all three invading foreign powers⁹ against each other. He organized and refined the Muscogee Confederacy government into the most powerful confederacy in the southeast. By his twenty-fourth birthday he was so prominent and powerful within the Muscogee Confederacy that outsiders referred to him as the "Dictator" even though the Confederacy had never given anyone such power. He was, however, given the title of "Great Beloved Man" by the Confederacy's Council and became the Confederacy's number one political adviser and chief diplomat.¹⁰

The Revolutionary War weakened and

fledgling United States of America treated McGillivray and the Muscogee Confederacy with great care during the late 1700s, engaging in treaty negotiations on a government to government basis always pledging mutual military support. There were several years of peaceful co-existence, but McGillivray's early and untimely death in 1793 ended a very successful period for the Muscogee Confederacy government.

Eventually the United States, incited by southern state governments and wishing to avoid a civil war¹¹, forced removal of the Muscogee Confederacy west of the Mississippi River to The Indian Territory.

The Muscogee Confederacy developed a written constitution patterned to a certain extent to resemble the organization of Muscogee ceremonial towns, with some articles borrowed from The Iroquois Confederacy and of course clauses resembling provisions contained in the United States Constitution¹². This written Muscogee¹³ Nation Constitution was finally approved in 1867. However, a written constitution did not protect the Muscogee from land hungry easterners, who politically persuaded the United States government to continue pursuing the elimination of Muscogee government by a congressionally forced allotment of land during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

This allotment process was completed prior to Oklahoma Statehood in 1907 and after the last Muscogee Nation tribal elections conducted before statehood. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, after 1907, refused to allow expenditure of Muscogee funds held in trust for the conduct of any future tribal elections or continued operation of the Muscogee government believing the Muscogee would assimilate thereby eliminating this Indian problem.

Presidents of the United States appointed Principal Chiefs when expedient for a federal government purpose¹⁴ and this process continued until the congress realized assimilation and termination of Native American Tribes had not accomplished the desired result, nor was that result now popular.

A new Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution was approved by the people in 1979 pursuant to court order¹⁵.

There were numerous obstacles encountered implementing the revitalization of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government with the 1979 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution¹⁶. Reformation of the tribal court system, lost since the allotment era, presented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with major problems, many of constitutional proportions not the least of which was a failure by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to recognize the sovereign right of the Nation to have a court system and law enforcement agency. Finally a favorable federal court decision in Muscogee (Creek) Nation v Hodel¹⁷ put the Muscogee on a track to good self government.

Presently the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government has published the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated¹⁸ containing historical and statutory notes, cross references, library references, notes of decisions by the Muscogee (Creek) Supreme and District Court, descriptive word index, annotated Constitution and the Treaties and agreements with the United States of America.

The Principal Chief has a very pressing schedule representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Washington D.C., Oklahoma City, throughout the United States and the world. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has business interests that are global.

The National Council conducts legislative activities on a daily basis. There are several Standing Committees meeting several times each week. The National Council Speaker is in the office Monday through Friday and some Saturdays. Special Sessions are called during the month as required and a General Session is held the last Saturday of each month. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council has become a full-time legislative body active through out the year.

The Judicial Branch, consisting of a District Court and Supreme Court, maintains offices that are open daily. Access to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Court System is available to all citizens, businessmen, people doing business with the Nation and governmental entities. The Trial or District Court is in session each day and on holidays and weekends as required. The Supreme Court has Six Justices conducting appellant court business daily and providing magistrate assistance to the District Court when needed.

2005 sees the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's tri-partite government thriving, each of its three branches of government¹⁹ functioning in accordance with the constitution and laws.²⁰

*B.B.A., University of Oklahoma, J.D., Oklahoma City University; LL.M., University of Tulsa. Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Judge 1987 to Present. Partner, The Moore Law Firm, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

He is a member of the American Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, Oklahoma Bar Association, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bar Association, Cherokee Nation Bar Association and Chickasaw Nation Bar Association. He serves on the faculty of The College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, The National Judicial College, Oklahoma State University and Bacone College.

1 Muscogee storyteller's saying.

2 Richard L. Thornton, *AIA, Talamachusee Design Studio, Okmulgee Under Five Suns, 3rd Edition, 2005.*

3 Oral Interview with Amos McNac, 4/4 Muscogee, 02.28.02; 03.21.02; and 04.11.02.

4 John R. Swanton, *The Indians of the Southeastern United States*, Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 137. Final Report of the U.S. De Soto Expedition Commission (1939).

5 Peace Town

6 War Town

7 Angie Debo, *The Road to Disappearance, A History of the Creek Indians*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1941.

8 Muscogee society was matrilineal. Clan membership was a birthright with each Muscogee being automatically a member of his or her mother's clan.

9 British, French and Spanish.

10 Joel W. Martin, *(Sacred Revolt The Muskogees' Struggle for a New World*. Beacon Press, Boston. 1991) p.81.

11 The United States in 1830 would not have been able to withstand secession of any southern state and therefore allowed the exploitation and removal of eastern Native Americans.

12 Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson along with other members of the Constitutional Convention had interviewed and studied extensively tribal governments before they began to draft the United States Constitution.

13 Known as Creek Nation in 1867.

14 There were incidents where some Muscogee land had not been allotted properly and it became necessary for a Principal Chief to issue a deed from the Creek Nation to an individual.

15 Harjo v. Kleppe, 420 F. Supp. 1110 (1976).

16 This new Constitution of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was adopted the 20th day of August, 1979, by the Creek Constitutional Commission in accordance with the Court Order of September 1, 1976, in the case of Harjo v. Andrus nee Kleppe, 420 F. Supp. 1110(1976) Case 74-189, U. S. District Court, Washington, D.C.; Approved by Sidney L. Mills, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs, August 17, 1979, subject to ratification by qualified voters as provided by Article X of said Constitution; Ratified by Muscogee (Creek) voters on October 6, 1979 by a vote of 1,897 in favor and 1,694 opposed.

17 Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Hodel, 851 F.2d 1439, (1988)

18 Thompson West @ 2003 Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

19 Executive, Legislative and Judicial.

20 The Author penned this academic article for the *Mvskoke Law Reporter*; Copyright © 2005 Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court and Supreme Court, OCW Press Tulsa : 2006

Glenpool NASA annual Stompdance

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool Native American Student Association will be hosting their annual stomp dance on Jan. 27, from seven to midnight at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community building located off Hwy 75 and 141st St.

For more information, contact Kristi Collington, Director of Indian Education, at (918) 322-3823, ext 568. Booths are free with item donation room permitting.

Gouge Family Valentine Stompdance

GLENPOOL — On Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, the Felix Gouge Family will be hosting a Valentine's Stompdance from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community building located off Hwy 75 and 141st St.

Andy Alexander will serve as master of ceremonies for the event. Cash door prizes, raffle items, and 50/50 drawing will be held during the event. A concession stand will also be available. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the fellowship. Those attending are asked to bring their own chairs.

Coming and Going in Indian Country by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE — The rising and setting of the Sun and the waxing and waning of the Moon are the most basic and important cycles for marking time. We are all obedient to these

cycles, no matter what culture or creature. Solstice points mark larger arcs of time. On winter solstice, daylight is the shortest; the Sun has the lowest arc. Summer solstice is the opposite. This is the natural calendar. And for our people, the New Year occurs at the annual green corn ceremony. This is a time

of renewal and forgiveness. I always look forward to this time. Even if I am not able to make it home; I mark the event. We all need marking points and places for renewal, to begin again in a fresh manner. Doing so together can make the event even more powerful, special.

According to the European-based Gregorian calendar, the New Year begins on January 1st, and most of us mark this as a time for new beginnings, a time for a new start. I figure I might as well observe two New Year events, which makes for double new beginnings.

January first is a time of resolutions. The most popular are those to lose weight, quit smoking, or to win the lottery. I imagine that most of us make the same resolutions every year. I find that it's easier to judge what others need to do to improve their lives. I can easily make resolutions for others. For instance, it's absolutely clear to me that _____ on the National Council is full of _____ and should resolve not to run for political office, rather stay home and take care of _____. Or, why doesn't _____ leave _____ for all his partying around. Everyone knows he's seeing _____ on the side. She should resolve to lose the sucker. We also know that _____ is playing _____ for a fool. _____ should resolve to _____. And why is _____ so worried about the enrollment of citizens who also have African blood when they have grandparents who have African blood, and they've done everything they can to hide it and deny it, even changing tribal records? _____ should resolve to not hate themselves or anyone else based on skin color.

And so on, you can fill in the blanks. I could make a form here, with various resolutions, and they could be pasted to a card and sent to _____. Yeah, sure....it doesn't work that way and it never will. Criticizing and pointing fingers at others doesn't change behavior. It usually adds to the mess. Yet, we often think these things and even speak them to our own little constituents and wonder why nothing changes. Thoughts are things and are propelled as soon as they're thought. Some are directed, and some are misty sticky wreaths. And you can be sure that every thought you send out returns to stick to the owner and maker. Scary, huh? We become what we think, for better or worse. It's wiser to tend to our own business, and send out thoughts to "lift each other up". And more than thoughts, but back them with actions that will truly "lift each other up". If I consider Mvskokean philosophy, "lifting each other up" is a cornerstone.

Every time I hear the phrase I am always taken back to the voices and ways of thinking and acting of the wis-

est of us. I used to drive my Aunt Lois Harjo Ball around to see people and that's how I learned. We often landed at George and Stella Coser's warm house in Okmulgee. It was there that

I probably first heard the phrase, "to lift each other up". I noted that my spirit was always lifted up in their home. I also came away knowing that genealogy is a Mvskoke science, and that there is beautiful and ever growing mystery to the world. There is an amazing depth to our tribal philosophy.

When I think of a truly Mvskoke University I think it must be in the same kind of place and manner as what I experienced in the Coser's and in other traditional homes like theirs. I often hear that same phrase from George Coser, Jr. when I call him by phone or visit. And I am always "lifted up" when we speak. Myto.

I was reminded once again of this powerful phrase when I called up my friend Ella Coleman who moved back to Seminole, Oklahoma with her husband Al. We knew each other when she lived in Albuquerque. She's one of those people whose spirit naturally lifts everyone up who's around her. She reported that a conference of fvsbate gathered in her backyard. She'd never seen so many in one place. Her mother reminded her that a redbird is said to represent good-luck to our people. To see so many redbirds assembled in one place would uplift any of us. Her husband Al, who's a fine photographer, wanted to photograph the event, but also didn't want to scare the birds away, so he tried from inside, but the screen got in the way. My imagination sees that gathering quite well from Ella's description, and I like thinking of them all hanging out in Ella and Al's backyard. The redbird society found the right place to go, a place to where they would feel lifted up.

Ella reminded me of the phrase when she told how her relatives were talking over a holiday meal about how people used to act "to lift each other up". They'd go see people in the hospital, or go help each other with repairs, take over dishes of food, or if going hunting shared what they had brought back. Some people still do this, but less and less so. We all seem further apart from each other. To do so, she said, was so that we "lifted each other up". When she used that phrase it felt as true as it has always felt since the first time I heard it.

Ella has a grand-nephew Michael and every time I hear a new story about him I think of those traditional people and can see that new ones are being born, though these times are different. She said that Michael has made a corner of the house a place he goes to, on his own, when he thinks bad thoughts. He's only four-years-old, and wiser than most of us. I figured I'd better designate a corner in my house. And we might want to designate a corner, or several in the tribal complex. We'd be better off for it.

Myto Ella, Al and Michael.

So, in honor of those who truly know and carry forth the Mvskoke ways, why not make a New Year's resolution for the nation, to lift each other up? Something then might truly change, and we might all be lifted up, together.



Harjo

The art of longbow making carried on by Schulter resident

Story provided by: Okmulgee Daily Times

SCHULTER — Inside every bois d'arc tree, a longbow is waiting to emerge.

Knowing how to craft one is easy to compare with coaxing the bow out of the tree, says Mike Berryhill a Muscogee (Creek) Indian who has mad elong bows - which are used to shoot arrows - in the tradition of his ancestors for decades.

"A bow has to have heart," he said. "Bois d'arc is a wood with heart."

In the days when the Creek people roamed their Georgia homlands, before their forced removal to Oklahoma, hunters used longbows exlusivly for sustnance, Berryhill said.

"This is who we are; it's a part of our culture," he said. "Nowadays, we are taught how to make a living, and tat's good, but back then it was survival, pure and simple."

The Creek elder estimates tat he has made dozens of Indian lovnghbows in his lifetime. He fot acquainted with, and then consument by longbows at the instruction of his grandfather, Joe Berryhill.

"I was about 8 when we started being around longbows," Mike Berryhill said. "I've been involved with making them ever since."

Many types of bow makers exist, and they come out of the woodwork for frontier oriented events, Berryhill said. He usually attends gatherings weraing his tribe's traditional attire.

But bowmaking the Creek way is

a dying art form, he said.

"This is something I want to teach young people," he said. "Still, it's hard to get them interested in it because it's such a time-consuming process."

Berryhill must cut and cure the wood before making a longbow. Depending on the wood, weeks or months can pass before a bow can be finished. He has mad bows out of locust, elm, and hickory, but he prefers bois d'arc.

"I don't see my part in it as any special thing," he said. "The real deal is being out there and listening. I sometimes feel like I can hear when it's time for me to start working on a bow."

First, the right piece of wood must be found. Berryhill has spent many hours tramping through acres of bois d'arc trees to find a potential longbow. The tree is not cut down; only a branch is removed.

"I try to wastae nothing when I take a piece of wood," he said.

Once he finds the right tree and branch, timing is everything.

The old-timeres theorized that the moon has a say in what time of the month a limb should be removed. If it is cut down when the moon is too full, the wood is apt to be weak. Cold weather is the best itme to cut because the tree's sap has drawn down to its roots. That makes the wood easier to work with,

Berryhill said.

"Itls the gravitational pull. The moon is very powerful, but we've lost



ters and colors. Like wood, some people are easy to work with, while others are gnarly."

The attributes of a bois d'arc bow are obvious. One of the longbows on his living room wall - a handsome richly darkened instrument about 5 feet long - glows with a softer luster, but it has not been stained.

Berryhill makes arrows, too He uses river cane, which he says seems made for arrow-making. But river cane is becoming harder to find locally, he said.

His arrows either are fitted with pre-made ends from kits or he makes the points out the bois d'arc. Turkwy feathers adoern the opposite end. He puts his arrows into a quiver that he tanned himself. The quiver smells fanintly of smoke and holds more than a half-dozen arrows.

About 90 percent of the longbows Berryhill makes are for non-Indians who wish to own a real Indian bow, he said. People have paid him as much as \$375for his bows, but he also has given them away as gifts.

"Sometimes I've made bows that I couldn't part with, maybe because a part of me goes into them," he said.

"If you thing about it, almost every culture on Earth at some time or another has used the bow and arrow in their history."

Members of other area tribes also make longbows. The Cherokee Nation has neamed several of its lonbow makers as living art treasures. Archers from that tribe, as with the Creeks, fashion their own bows. Both tirbes use them to hunt game, from which they take meat and native medicine.

Rglulations for bohunters in Oklahoma are the same whether the weapons are crossbows, compound or homamed bow, said Jim Edwards, assistant chief of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Department's Law Enforcement Division. The season runs through January 15.

The archery specification include a minimum 40-pound pull for the bow, Edwards said. Homemade bows are popular in the state with Indians and non-Indians, although it is harder to bring down a deer with them, he said.

"The home bow get back to a more traditional type of archery here in Oklahoma," he said.

Berryhill hopes someday to teach his 7-year-old grandson how to use and make Creek longbows. The youngster has not shown much interest yet, but Berryhill holds out hope.

There's still time, although he laments the passing of tribal elders who take their knowledge, such as bowmaking, with them.

"Bows are a lot like Indians, in my opinion," he said. "They both have resiliency."

Scholarships

continued from A8

SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTORIES: Even though scholarship directories are becoming outmoded by the advent of the Internet, they are still valuable. You will find some scholarships in them that are not on the Internet. Your high school library should have a good set of them; if it does not, you can ask the librarian to buy a set, which should cost under \$300.

The alternative is to find a good set at the nearest college library. If you need help paying for this travel, CTD can help with your mileage to this library.

Use the index in the back of the book to find the scholarships you want. Don't start at the front of the book and leaf through; this will take too long. Look up the same keywords you used on Fastweb to help you find the scholarships in the directories.

There are over 700 scholarship directories published in the U. S. However, you want to use the most comprehensive ones, with 600 to 1,200 pages each. The following constitute a minimum set of scholarship directories your library should have:

- Daniel J. Cassidy, "Undergraduate Scholarship Book" Simon and Schuster, Route 9 West, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 07632, (800) 922-0579.
- Gail A. Schlachter, "Directory of Financial Aid for Minorities." Reference Service Press, 1100 Industrial Road, Suite 9, San Carlos CA 94070, (415) 594-0743.
- Gail A. Schlachter, "Directory

of Financial Aid for Women."

- Gail A. Schlachter, "Directory of Financial Aid for Native Americans."
- Oreon Keesler, "Financial Aids for Higher Education." William C. Brown Publishers, 2640 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque IA, 52001, (800) 338-5578.
- S. Norman and Marie Feingold, "Scholarships, Fellowships, & Loans." Bellman Press, P. O. Box 34937, Bethesda MD 20817, (301) 897-0033.

We will be glad to furnish your librarian with a fuller listing of scholarship directories at any time, free for the asking. Have your librarian to e-mail me with a request.

YOUR UNIVERSITY: You will be surprised, pleasantly, with learning how many scholarships your university has. If it is an Ivy League, the scholarship dollars per year are in the hundreds of millions. If it is the flagship state university in your state, the figure will be several tens of millions. If you are an outstanding Native student, you should realize that your intended college, and many others besides, will want to recruit you. You should use this knowledge to leverage at least some scholarship support from the university.

Someone on the campus is in charge of scholarships. On a small campus this person may be in the Financial Aid Office. On a large campus this person will probably be separate from Financial Aid. What you want to do is find this person, and have a complete list of scholarships sent to you. That way you will be the person who decides which ones you will apply for, and not someone

else.

The tendency of the scholarship officer will be to send you a list of the ones she thinks you are eligible for. Be polite, but ask for the whole list. The University of Oregon, for instance, has a 32-page booklet listing all scholarships on the campus school by school, and department by department.

YOUR COMMUNITY: There are dozens of scholarship organizations in your local community. In the bad old days, these scholarships were reserved for the Old Boy Network (OBN). If you were male, and Anglo, you knew about them, were tied into the network, and had an inside chance of winning one or several of them. But today, when the nation is moving more and more toward equity and diversity, these local scholarships are opening up more and more and becoming available to women, minorities, and other underserved groups.

Students living on reservations should realize that the nearest town to the reservation is part of the reservation community. For instance, Pine Ridge residents are part of the communities of Gordon and Chadron, Nebraska. The residents of the Navajo reservation are part of the communities of Holbrook, Page, Gallup, Grants, Farmington, and Flagstaff—whichever is closer.

Some of the scholarships in your community are the Elks, the Masons, the Lions, the VFW, the Moose, the Optimist, the Soroptimist, the Rotary, the American Association of University Women, the Business and Professional Women, the Civitans, Wal-Mart, and the

Toastmasters. Others such as women's groups, men's groups, church groups, business groups, professional associations, and special interest groups also frequently raise money and administer scholarship programs.

To find them, you will have to play detective. For instance, the Rotary Club will meet once a week in a certain restaurant. Often, as you drive into a town, a sign along the highway will note the location of Rotary. You will have to contact that restaurant to learn the name and phone number of the president of Rotary. Then you call that person to get the name and phone number of the scholarship chairman. Then call that person to get a scholarship application.

One of our applicants found 22 local scholarships in Chadron, Nebraska. Another found 12 local scholarships in Yankton, South Dakota. Two years ago, the Elks Club in Holbrook, Arizona had three scholarships available, and no one applied. We hate to hear things like that.

Most of our applicants, however, have not even looked in their local communities. Don't make this mistake. Remember, there is no limit to the amount of scholarship money you can win!

Once you have finished using all four sources, put them all together to come up with your total list. If you don't have at least 40, regardless of your field of study, you have not looked hard enough.

GETTING READY TO APPLY

Now that you have used all four ways of finding scholarships, you are ready to put your plan into action. Put the scholarships from all four sources

together in one place. The best place to store your information is on your computer. Contact the scholarships no more than eight weeks in advance to ask for an application form and guidelines. DO NOT contact them all at the same time. The scholarship "season" is January 1 through April 30.

CONTINUED TO SCHOLARSHIP on B7



Central (mailing address)
5950 East 31st Street
Tulsa, OK 74135-5114
FAX (918) 664-9922

North
902 East Pine Street
Tulsa, OK 74106-5929
FAX (918) 585-9266

Broken Arrow
3106 South Juniper Avenue
Broken Arrow, OK 74012-7712
FAX (918) 445-1151

Adult Day Services

Caregiver Support Services

Case Management Services

Senior Centers

Senior Line Information Services

Vintage Housing

The Vintage Newsmagazine

Creek Citizens recieve keys to their new homes

EUFAULA — On Dec 12 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and National Council Representative, Anthony Notaro attended a key ceremony for Lucinda Tiger and Pauline Bean of Eufaula. Tiger an Bean were very thankful for their new homes. The two elders applied for both houses through the New Modernization of privately owned homes. According to Construction Services Manager, David Proctor the program is available to

all Creek citizens with a preference of full blood, handicap, and elder tribal citizens. It was developed to assist Creek citizens with a new home if the current home is proven to be beyond repair. All applicants must be a Creek citizen. For more information about these houses or on how to apply for a home, contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division by phone at 1-800-295-5050. Or by mail at P.O. Box 297 Okmulgee, OK, 74437.



Pictured above left to right: Anthony Notaro, Pauline Bean, Chief Ellis, and David Proctor.



Pictured above left to right: Anothony Nataro, Dean Smith, Lucinda tiger, and Chief Ellis.

Short report on christmas senior activity
By Jackson Barnett, Manager Creek Nation Senior Services

The senior services program of Mvskoke Creek Nation experienced the most successful turnout for any senior activity on December 23rd, at the senior nutrition center. Activities for the day included eating, of course, bingo playing for grocery baskets and door prize drawings. The Bar-b-que caterer delivered for eighty. Because of the large turnout, Mr. Massey had to return to his restaurant for additional food to feed everyone. The number in attendance was estimated to be between ninty and one hundred. There was good representation from



Pictured above Irene Parkinson and Helen Sandlin

many communities which included Okmulgee, Muskogee, Dewar, Twin Hills, Sapulpa, and Eufaula. Even a Kickpoo man slipped in on us. The names and areas of the winners are as follows: Chennena Johnson of Eufaula, Dorthy Myers of Twin Hills, Georgelena Coser of Muskogee, Johnny Hicks of Okemah, Bill Chalakee of Honey Creek, Roley Johnson of Holdenville, Sharon Harris of Twin Hills, Judy Morsette of Eufaula, Oleta Donathan of Dewar, Dennis Yates of Lindsey, Irene Wood of Eufaula, Dugan McIntosh of Eufaula, Josephene Francis of Eufaula, Edna Belcher of Eufaula, Jean Berryhill of Okmulgee, Merium Beaver of Morris, Irene Wood of Eufaula, Judy Morsette of Eufaula, Lillian Crow of Twin Hills, Dennis Yates of Lindsey/ Henryetta.

Circles of Care Program recruiting key informant participants

A message from the Circles of Care Program:
OKMUGLEE — Circles of Care is in the process of recruiting parents to participate in key-informant interviews. We are looking for native parents of children who are experiencing serious emotional/ behavioral difficulties and that have attempted or are currently using services for these youth.

We expect that these parents will be able to provide us with very important information about the needs, strengths, and gaps in current mental health and support services. Please contact the Behavioral Health Program at (918)756-1910 if you or someone you know may be interested in participating in this evaluation.



Local church receives help with transportation



Creek District Representative Rodger Barnett and Okfuskee District Representative Travis Scott, far right, present keys to a 12-passengar van to Springfield United Methodist Church.

JESSICA COOK/MNN

SPIRITUAL BLESSING

“SUMC have been in need of a church van for quit sometime, and we feel very blessed that the Nation was able to help out, we have very many members in the church, we feel that we have been blessed Spiritually and I personally would like to thank Creek Nation.”

— Vernon Yarholar —

by Jessica Cook
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — On December 19, 2006 Okfuskee District Representatives Lena Wind, Travis Scott, and Creek District Representative/Second Speaker Roger Barnett presented Springfield United Methodist Church with a 12-passenger van. The van was purchased for \$15,700 from McKay Ford Mercury Dealer,

When Pastor Rachel Boyiddie was asked how she felt about receiving the van she responded by saying, “I as a pastor of Springfield United Methodist Church and for the congregation would

like to thank Creek Nation for the wonderful gift that has been presented to us, I would also like to thank Travis Scott and Rodger Barnett for their kind and caring nature and for the love of their people.”

Vernon Yarholar, Chairman of the Church also wanted to share his thoughts by adding, “SUMC have been in need of a church van for quit sometime, and we feel very blessed that the Nation was able to help out, we have very many members in the church, we feel that we have been blessed Spiritually and I personally would like to thank Creek Nation.” Yarholar went on to add “We put it in God’s hands

and he blessed us.”

Boyiddie also wanted to add “The blessing of this van is a answer to our prayers the van will help us to continue to be about the work of the lord we once again would like to thank Creek Nation and our Representatives for this gift.”

The church plans to use the van to transport members of the church to vacation bible school, travel to other churches, and attend prayer meetings. When called upon by other churches, Springfield will be able to go and be together rather than take numerous vehicles.

Their ultimate goal for the van is

to make mission trips; this will open a lot more doors for many more opportunities.

Lena Wind wanted to state “That our traditional Churches have been a major foundation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, it is imperative that we address their needs and work to preserve, with these special appropriations rich blessings will come to the tribe.”

When Creek District Representative and Second Speaker Roger Barnett was asked his thoughts on helping the church with transportation he responded by saying, “I think you feel a sense

of accomplishment in the joy you see in your Tribal citizens, and to have the resources to help. I feel privileged to be in my position.”

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has helped numerous organizations with transportation, such as churches, community centers, and other various organizations. In order to obtain transportation each organization must put in a request to their Council Representative, their representative will then submit the legislation for that purpose and begin a thorough process.

History of a Pastor: Jimmy Anderson

Pastor Jimmy Anderson of the Many Springs Baptist Church, was born on August 14, in Kansas City, Mo. to Norman and Mattie (Stidham) Anderson, full blood Creeks.

In 1934, the family moved to Holdenville and lived with their aunt, Lillie Stidham. Jimmy attended the Euchee Boarding School from 1944-1947 and then went on to enroll at Haskell, graduating in 1954.

Jimmy then went on to attend the University of Oklahoma from 1955 to 1957, graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts.

During his years at OU, Jimmy was a member of the First Indian Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, which later became South Central Baptist Church.

In 1956, Jimmy surrendered to the call of the ministry and was licensed by the church.

In 1958 to 1961, God opened the doors for Jimmy to enroll at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Then in 1959, Jimmy married Cowena Sue Bruner and she returned to Eastern Seminary with him, where she became secretary to the Seminary Vice President.

After graduating in 1961, Jimmy and Cowena came back to Oklahoma where he became assistant to Dr. B. Frank Belvin, General Missionary to the Muskogee/Seminole/Wichita Baptist Association.

In November of 1961, Anderson was ordained by Many Springs Baptist Church.

He served the pastors and churches with Dr. Belvin throughout the fall of 1963, when Dr. Belvin and Victor Kaneubbe, later, Jimmy would accept the pastorate of the Fruitland Navajo Baptist Mission, near Farmington, New Mexico.

During 1963 to 1954, he served FNBM over a year until the Home Mission Board asked him to apply as missionaries under their Language Missions Department.

From 1964 to 1967, Jimmy served as three Navajo Baptist Mission points on the reservation-Mexican Springs, Tohatchi, and Naschitti.

During 1967 to 1970, the couple then accepted the pastorate at the First Indian Baptist Church in Gallup, N.M., and at Ft. Wingate.

From 1970 to 1974, Jimmy accepted the pastorate at the First Indian Baptist Mission in Shawnee, and helped lead them to be a self-supporting church. The church began as a Indian Alcohol Recovery center and helped secure Indian counselors for the Shaw-

nee Middle and High schools.

In 1974 through 1986, Jimmy and his wife accepted the position as General Missionaries to the MSW Baptist Association, assuming the position held by Dr. Belvin.

During these years, mission teams began going out across the country.

From 1987 to 1994, Jimmy became Statewide Indian Church Developer for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. Mission teams continued and training started for the pastors and churches.

From 1994 to 1997, Anderson accepted the position of National Indian Consultant for the Home Mission Board, succeeding Russell Begaye, who became the Director of the Language Missions Department of the Home Mission Board. Mission teams would go to Alaska, Central America, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico.

Although, Jimmy retired in June of 1997, he remained with the board for one more year, until a replacement

was found.

In retirement, Jimmy and his wife remained idle. He is still today taking mission teams out and helping native people.

In 2002, the couple went out to Stroud where Jimmy became Interim Pastor of the Gloryland Baptist Church, among the Sac and Fox people.

From 2003 until today, Jimmy is Associate Pastor of Many Springs Baptist Church in Holdenville, which is the home church of both him and his wife Cowena.

Having been raised here on the grounds as young people growing up, Cowena is the daughter of a former pastor of Many Springs, Reverend Arthur J. Bruner.

In September of 2006, Jimmy was honored for 50 years of service in the ministry at Many Springs Baptist Church. Where Principal Chief A.D. Ellis presented him with a plaque

Jimmy and Cowena have four sons: Jeffrey, Jon, Billy, and Andrew, and six grandchildren.



Anderson

CHURCHACTIVITIES

Concharthy United Methodist
In efforts to help a family in need, on January 7 the members of Concharthy United Methodist church donated \$800 to a family that lost their home in a fire.

In December Concharthy United Methodist Church had a Christmas program followed by gift giving to all that attended.

The church also lended a hand to a community in need, by cooking a Christmas dinner, and giving four food baskets away. They also adopted a family in need, and provided them with food and gifts.

New Beginnings Baptist
HENRYETTA — New Beginnings Baptist Church had a successful Christmas Program with a reading of a “Christmas Story”, guitar and key-

board song specials.
Also for entertainment the church had a puppet show followed by cookies, punch, and also Christmas sacks were passed out to the members.

New Beginnings Baptist Church invites everyone to attend church Wednesday beginning at 7p.m., Sunday School at 10a.m., and Sunday services beginning at 11a.m.

Little Cussetah Methodist
On December 17, Little Cussetah Methodist Church celebrated their Christmas with a Christmas Play followed by candy sacks and gifts to all that attended.

Little Cussetah would like to invite all to join them in Sunday services; with Sunday school at 10p.m. and services beginning at 11p.m.

Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Association 4th Sunday Dates

Alabama Cedar Spring Cold Spring Forest Creek Mission Hutchachuppa Little Coweta Little Quarsarty Many Springs Okmulgee Prairie Spring Spring Weogufkee West Eufaula Yardeka Quarsada Alabama	Artusse Bemo Beaver Bird Creek Deep Fork Hillabee Hickory Ground #2 Hillabee Mekusukey Middle Creek #2 Montesoma Okfuskee Pigeon Sand Creek Eufaula Silver Spring Tulmochussee Wetumka	Baptist S.S. Mission Butler Creek Cedar Creek Cedar Creek Eufaula Grave Creek Greenleaf Nuyaka New Joy Ross Mission Sand Creek Sand Spring Thewarthle Tookparfka Tuskegee Seminole Arbeka Wekiwa Wewoka	Arbeka Big Arbor Cedar River Hickory Ground #1 High Spring (Okemah) High Spring (Konawa) Little Cussetah Middle Creek #1 New Arbor Randall Rock Spring Salt Creek Snake Creek #1 Snake Creek #2 Seminole Baptist Vian Creek Trenton
January 7 February 4 March 4 April 1	January 14 February 11 March 11 April 8	January 21 February 18 March 18 April 15	January 28 February 25 March 25 April 22

BIRTHS

Kaedyn William Bagby

TULSA — Kaedyn William Bagby was born November 23 at South-Crest Hospital in Tulsa, to Krystal Cook and Kareffren Dewight Bagby, Sr. of Okmulgee.

He weighed 7 lbs. and 2 oz. and was 20 inches in lenght.

Maternal grandparents are William “Chebon” Cook and Peggy Martin of Okmulgee and Norma Taryole and Marlin “Kayo” Thompson of Henryetta.

Paternal grandparents are Roderick and Elizabeth “Liz” Bagby of Preston and Beverly and Floyd Brown of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents are Ella and the late George Cook of Okemah and Newman and Lydia Taryole of Bristow.

Paternal great grandparents are “Mama” and “Papa” Bagby of Preston.



BIRTHDAYS

Kareffren Dwight Bagby Jr.

OKMULGEE — Kareffren Dwight Bagby, Jr. celebrated his 2nd birthday on November 23rd by welcoming his new baby brother Kaedyn William Bagby.

Kareffren is the son of Kareffren Dewight Bagby, Sr. and Krystal Cook of Okmulgee.

Maternal grandparents are William “Chebon” Cook and Peggy Martin of Okmulgee and Norma Taryole and Marlin “Kayo” Thompson of Henryetta.

Paternal grandparents are Roderick and Elizabeth “Liz” Bagby of Preston and Beverly and Floyd Brown of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents are Ella and the late George Cook of Okemah and Newman and Lydia Taryole of Bristow.

Paternal great grandparents are “Mama” and “Papa” Bagby of Preston.



Abby & A.J. Alvarez

GLENPOOL — Abby Alvarez turned 3 on September 3 and her brother A.J. Alvarez turned 10 on September 12.

They are the children of Alex Alvarez, and the grandchildren of Alexis Crosley of Bristow and Edward Gene Alvarez of Carrollton, Tx.

Maternal great grandparents are Billie Sulphur Scott and the Late Burtis W. Bible of Glenpool.

Paternal grandparents are Cruz Frayre of Dallas and the late Willie Alvarez of Dallas, Tx.



A.D. Ellis

OKMUGEE — Principal Chief A.D. Ellis celebrated his birthday with creek Nation employees and acquaintances on Dec. 13.

Ellis is the son of Doolie and Nellis Bruner Ellis of the Twin Hills community.

He is the grandson of Adaline and Rev. Billie Bruner.

Chief Ellis currently resides in the Twin Hill community with his wife Gail (Billings) Ellis and has four daughters and three sons whom reside throughout the United States.

Ellis belongs to the Turtle clan, his tribal town is Locv poka and attends Concharty Indian Methodist Church.



Malakai Wayne Harjo

OKMULGEE — Malaki Wayne Harjo turned one on December 2. He celebrated with a “OU” theme party at his home on Saturday, December 2, 2006 with host of family and friends.

Malakai is the son Brandee Beaver and Dustin “Chudd” Harjo.

His maternal grandparents are Charlene Deere of Oklahoma City and David Deere of Okmulgee.

His paternal grandparents are Angela Berryhill of Morris and Chris Harjo of Okmulgee.

He is the great grandson of Wanda Buckley of Okemah and the late Sam Beaver, Christine Berryhill of Morris, and Lyndeel Berryhill of Bristow.



Newman Taryole

BRISTOW — Newman Taryole celebrated his 73rd birthday at Burger King in Tulsa, on January 1st.

He was born on Jauary 1st, 1934 in Okemah, and now resides in Bristow.

Newman Celebrated with his wife Lydia Taryole; five children: Barbara and Carl West of Bristow, Norma (Shorty) Taryole of Henryetta, Norman (Bungie) Taryole of Bristow, Newman Jr. and Laura Taryole of Glenpool, Natalie and Joe Hogner of Bristow.

Also in attendance were 18 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; nephew Tyrone Barnett and wife Angela along with with their four children; and special friends Jerry and Judy Hogner.



Alissa Callie Taylor

TULSA — Alissa celebrated her 11th birthday with family and friends.

She is the daughter of Stefanie and Lucas Taylor.

Her maternal grandparents are the late Louise Rose Pullman and Richard Wayne Pullman of Dewar.

Paternal grandparents are Sally and the late Walter Taylor Sr.

Alissa is currently active in soft ball, basketball. She is an active member of Dewar United Pentecostel Church. Alissa has one brother, Michael Pascale.



ACCOMPLISH-

James Richard Gillman

James Richard Gillman graduated in the fall semester of 2006 with a Master’s of Science in Business Administration from Southern Nazarene University, while maintaining a 3.8 GPA. James graduated in 2000 from Haskell Indian Nations University with an Associates degree before obtaining a Bachelor’s of Science in Administration from Southern Nazarene University. James also proudly served in the U.S. Navy from 1994-1997 on-board the U.S.S. Rainier. James currently is employed with Sunoco in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



Private Joshua “Levi” Arsee welcomed home by family

HOLDENVILLE — Private Joshua “Levi” Arsee, of the 2nd Btln. Fox Co. Plt. 2019, was welcome by his family and friends after 13 weeks of Marine boot camp in San Diego, CA. He will return to San Diego for 3 weeks of rifle training and on to Misssouri for further Marine training. His mother, Rhonda G. Arsee, attend his graduation on October. Arsee’s other relatives include his father Albert Arsee, grandmother Bonnie Marris, Special Aunt and Uncle David and Ginger Nichols, all of Okmulgee. Also, special parents Donald and Andrea Crawford and many friends of Holdenville. Prior to joining the U.S. Marine Corp, Arsee attended Holdenville High school where he was active in football and weight lifting. He graduated from Holdenville receiving a “Gold Deploma”. He went on to play in the Jim Thorpe Indian Football Classic, in Lawton, OK, where he and his team, “ Team Oklahoma”, won victoriously over the National team. Arsee’s family and friends say: “Welcome home Marine!”



Jenks 5th Grader Crowned Pow-Wow Princess

JENKS — Julia Wakeford, 5th grader at Jenks West Elementary was crowned the first ever pow-wow princess of the 6th Annual New Year’s Eve Sobriety Pow-Wow. Wakeford, 10, is of Creek and Yuchi descent and has participated in her traditional way of life since she was born. She was the Inter-Tribal Indian Club of Tulsa (IICOT) Pow-Wow’s Head Girl Dance in August 2005, a dance that brings hundreds of dancers and families to the Tulsa Expo Center for the Pow-Wow of Champions. She also participates in the Duck Creek and Pole Cat Ceremonial Grounds through her Yuchi heritage and the Gray Horse District of the Osage Dances every June.

She is heavily involved in Girl Scouts, where she is a Junior Level Scout with Troop 513. She has been a JTA Cheerleader for 4 years and enjoys softball with the Jenks Girls Softball League. She also loves art of all kinds: sewing, painting, drawing, origami, basket weaving, jewelry making, batik and photography. Her younger brother Ethan, 5, is often the inspiration of her drawings or photos.

In the Native American community, most titles are bestowed upon a girl based on her community involvement and her participation with the group crowning the titleholders. Julia has attended this pow-wow every year it has taken place and is very proud to be crowned its first princess.

Her crowning will took place on New Year’s Eve at the Tulsa Convention Center. She was crowned in her traditional clothes immediately following.



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Creek Soccer Player keeps kicking

“ Nokuse got on board and took the trip by himself to the ‘Land Down Under’ representing the United States and Oklahoma on a team called ‘People to People’. The soccer tour was also in a way, an opportunity for different cultures to come to know one another and discover that the world is not big after all”

TULSA-Nokuse ‘Bear’ Scott was five years old when he was out with his family on a weekend excursion. The Creek and Cherokee family was out playing games like most Indian families do, laughing and preparing a picnic lunch at the local park. The little Indian boy was just looking around when he heard a ‘thud’ right behind him. Nokuse turned around and saw a soccer ball and heard the distant yell of someone yelling for him to kick it back. Without hesitation Nokuse kicked the ball far down the field. In fact, he kept kicking and has been kicking ever since. That was twelve years ago and Nokuse discovered that the sport had a name, it was called soccer and Nokuse, which means ‘Bear’ in Creek, is really quite good at it. Although other family members joined in and helped young Nokuse out, they would soon find out that the gifted athlete had something special and could probably get better, that is, if he wanted to. The answer was quickly revealed as Nokuse stayed on the field and practiced and practiced, long after other kids had left to go home and eat supper. But as any parent knows, a child has to like what he is doing and have fun doing it. Nokuse was doing both.

Nokuse learned the game of soccer quickly and at the age of 10 was in full competitive mode. His Mother, Nancy Scott Fields began to realize that her son’s talent might be something special. And with Nokuse’ desire to learn the game and, even at a young age the commitment level being so strong, they began to find out more about local teams,leagues, and divisions. Nokuse’s talent was already flourishing and as a few years passed his name and his talent became more and more well known throughout the local soccer community.

People were noticing the little Indian athlete’s ability to play and lead on the field.

Th e young Indian boy’s talent and dedication was also helping him in other areas of his life as well. The discipline that he was learning helped in a big way. Nokuse saw what leadership and teamwork meant and how it could influence the outcome of a contest. The ebb and flow, even the rhythm of the ball and how it bounced, was instrumental in how Nokuse was seeing the game.

Nokuse was already approaching the game in a serious way and the task of playing everywhere and anywhere didn’t bother him. He didn’t mind the long drives and the different places he went to. To play alongside teammates he had just met when it called for him to play in invited tournaments never bothered Nokuse. It also didn’t bother Nancy to take him to all the different areas to play soccer. She saw that her son was getting fulfillment out of an athletic endeavor and liked the fact that is was a positive addition. It was a great way to stay in shape. Sometimes a game or tournament meant traveling across the state and even to another region. The tournaments got bigger and so did the geographic areas that Nokuse played in. Eventually the landscape would change totally to biggest scope of all. The other side of the world, and Nokuse was ready to travel

there. After all, he had played everywhere else, why not try Australia?

At the age of 12, a unique opportunity arose for Nokuse. He had the chance to play soccer on the Continent of Australia. After constant reassurances from officials and family members, Nancy agreed to let her son make the historic trip. She knew how much it would mean to Nokuse to play in such a prestigious event and opportunities like this do not come along too often. The fact that Nancy would not be able to make the trip would naturally worry any Mother, but the confidence and calm that Nokuse showed his Mother helped her to feel better about the huge trip. Everything was set, Nancy made sure that all details were in order, and then Nokuse got on board and took the trip by himself to the ‘Land Down Under’ representing the United States and Oklahoma on a team called ‘People to People’. The soccer tour was also in a way, an opportunity for different cultures to come to know one another and discover that the world is not big after all. In Nokuse’s case, his Native American heritage was truly unique. A chance for Nokuse to get to know other worlds and a chance for other worlds to get to know him.

Nokuse also saw action in New Zealand. The land where the film series ‘The Lord of the Rings’ was shot. Nokuse saw that the accents between the Aussies and the New Zealanders were similar but both had their unique cultural individualities.

The experience also enabled Nokuse to see action on an international level and see how the other side of the world played the game of ‘football’. Some rules and the interpretation of the game were slightly different, but overall the point was still to put the ball in between the opponents goal or net.

The sporting experience also helped Nokuse’s game to improve and to begin to prepare him for competition at an entirely different level. After all, when facing competition on a world level could only improve his game. Nokuse was getting on the job training, this would be advantageous to his game immensely. The mentoring that he received also from coaches all over the world would also prove to be very beneficial.

Nokuse’s trip was deemed a success. The young Indian athlete had accomplished much of he had wanted to do. He had received a chance to see another part of the world. Play against world competition and learn about other cultures. When he returned to the U.S., Nokuse’s focus on the game would even begin to change. The mental aspect of soccer and how to approach the game would be greatly enhanced as well. He was beginning to see how soccer could involve each player to its fullest, offensively and defensively, in the overall concept of the game. How each line and zone could be broken or used to outwit the opponent. But now the all the teaching would have to played out, not in the mind, but on the field and back home.

Stateside, Nokuse would go on to compete in other regional games. He would play in the Region III team camps in Tuscaloosa,

Alabama. Nokuse would be part of the ODP team that played in the prestigious tournament. The team camps were also played in Starkville, Mississippi. What made this event so unique is that only one team per age group in each state was invited to compete. With so many good teams to choose from, a unit would be comprised a little differently. Individuals also had to try out for the team just to be able to make the all star roster. So Nokuse did just that and made the team.

The ODP team is a state team. Besides playing on a competitive state team, Nokuse was also playing on another team that was also on the competitive level. Given that Nokuse’s experience and playing standard had improved greatly, his soccer abilities were in great demand everywhere.

He also brings those talents to his school as well. Nokuse attends Edison High School in Tulsa, and the Eagles soccer team got off to a great start this fall. He is mainly known as a ‘forward’ or ‘striker’, although Nokuse has also played several different positions on the many teams he has been a part of. Each role requires a different approach on the offensive and defensive side. Edison found success early in the season and down the homestretch.

The Eagles kept winning and found themselves in the state semi finals. They made a run before eventually losing a heart-breaker to arch-rival Bishop Kelley in the preliminaries. But Nokuse’s team realized they were playing a great team having played them during the regular season. They saw that Bishop Kelly continued on and went on to win the division.

Soccer athletes can be very versatile, the ability and leg strength can enable them to be successful in other sports as well. Nokuse is no exception to this rule, having played baseball and basketball in grade school as well as also handling the kicking duties for the Edison High School football team for the past two years.

Although Nokuse has had many coaches and teachers help him through the years, one special help comes to his mind.

Nokuse’s mentor, Marvin Lasley, who passed away two years ago, was so proud of Nokuse and all his dedication and various achievements. Lasley had helped Nokuse in soccer and other sports. Lasley was a big OSU fan and Nancy knows he would have been ecstatic to see Nokuse play his favorite sport of football. The coaching from Lasley would pay off too. This year Nokuse was named Field Goal Kicker of the Year in his 5A division.

This weekend finds Nokuse concentrating on nothing but soccer; he is in Arlington, Texas for the ‘Coaches College Classic Soccer Tournament’, an event that allows college recruiters from around the country to get a first hand look at the up and coming talent. It is without a doubt that Nokuse will be playing college soccer somewhere next year, and he knows that showing his ability this weekend in front of the scouts will do him good. Nancy is making the trip with her son. She is proud to see that her Nokuse is focused and knows what he wants out of life. “He has always loved sports and has always wanted to play everything,” says Nancy. “At 10 he decided to concentrate totally on soccer. He

was also an extremely good skateboarder but decided to give that up to concentrate on soccer. His goal has been to play soccer well enough to get a college scholarship.”

So serious has Nokuse’s effort been toward soccer that, even at a young age, he



decided to abandon another passion of his in order to give full attention to the game. His athletic ability allowed Nokuse to compete in powwows as a straight dancer, grass dancer and then fancy dancer, taught to him by his step father Poncho and friend Sandy Rhodes. But the demands of competitive tournaments and team scheduling in soccer helped Nokuse in coming to a decision in his life. “He stopped dancing when he went competitive in soccer,” said Nancy.

Nokuse is already making his options in selecting the college that he wants to play soccer at. Places like Southern Methodist University, the University of Missouri, William Jewell, and Francis Marion are on the list. Locally, Northeastern State University in Tahlequah is also being looked at. The athletic heritage of the family doesn’t just start with Nokuse. Father Chebon Dacon was a quarterback for the University of Oklahoma in the early sixties and Nancy at one time was a professional ballet dancer who fashioned herself after the great Native American Balletinas of the past.

Although Nokuse’s desire is to be successful on the soccer field, he also is placing great emphasis on academics. Currently he is preparing to major in the field of mathematics or art, which Nokuse likes to dabble in a lot, having created several works on canvas. It (art) is something like soccer that comes naturally to Nokuse.

The selection of art would fall right in line with the family heritage as well. His grandfather, Kenneth Scott, created the official logo for Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas while attending school there. His Uncle Knokovtee Scott is also a well known Creek Shell Jewelry Artist with artwork in the Smithsonian Institution. The family art line continues with Nokuse’s cousins being legendary Native American artists Jerome, Johnny and Dana Tiger.

Regardless of his college options and where that may lead him down the road of life, Nokuse plans on playing soccer for a while and continuing in art work and really anything he sets his mind and talents to. Chances are we will hear his name a lot in the future in one of these fields. He will try to kick the ball in the net and like his name, his opportunities and dreams are as big as a ‘Bear’.

Keep kicking and scoring Nokuse.



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BILL BERRYHILL

Funeral services for Bill “Bubba” Berryhill were held November 22 with Reverend Reuban Kelly, Reverend Jimmy Alexander, and Reverend Newman Frank officiating.

Bill was born on October 19, 1943 in Sapulpa. He retired from Arrow Trucking Company and was and was an active member of the Kellyville Indian Community.

He was preceded in death by his mother Lorene Billings Berryhill; one son Sonny Boy Berryhill.

Survivors include his wife Carol Smith Berryhill of the home; children: Charles Berryhill and wife Cindy of Glenpool, Angie Overstreet and husband Jeff of Glenpool, Lori Carpenter and husband Bo of Glenpool, R.D. Harwood and wife Risa of Kellyville, Rickey Harwood of Kellyville and Kathy Korstjen and husband Charles of Yukon; 14 grandchildren; brothers Tommy Berryhill and wife Jan of Sapulpa, Mike Berryhill of Sapulpa; and sister-in-law Gloria Berryhill of Mounds.

Pallbearers included Dean Reed, Jeremy Reed, Steven Reed, Steven Reed, Josh Berryhill, Kindal Smith and Carl Hampton.

Honorary Pallbearers included Jim Williams.

Interment was at the Kellyville Cemetery.

JOSHUA DEATON

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Joshua James “Chooch” Deaton were held December 8, with Overton Washington officiating.

Joshua was born on August 13, 1983 in Claremore and had lived in this area all of his life.

His hobbies included playing the guitar, fishing, hunting, swimming, and attending cookouts with his family and friends.

He is survived by his mother Mary Tiger Darland and step father Ron Darland of Kellyville; his father Kimmy Deaton of Sapulpa; brother Levi Deaton of Sapulpa; grandparents Dorothy Tiger of Sapulpa, James Deaton of Sapulpa, and Overton Washington of Sand Springs.

Pallbearers included Ricky Darland, Kenny Joe Cogburn, Jonah Baldez, Creekmore Wallace III, David Overton and C.J. Yarnell.

Honorary pallbearers included Chris Ethridge, Jeff Coggin, and Paul Churchwell.

Interment was at the Tiger Family Cemetery.

WANDA CRICKLIN

MIDWEST CITY — Funeral service for Wan-

da Mae Cricklin were held on January 3 at Paylor Dignity Memorial Chapel.

Wand was born March 8, 1920 in Dustin to Jackson Scott and Katie Benson.

Wanda was orphaned at an early age and essentially was raised in the Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding school system.

She moved to Muskogee where she met and married Joe, her husband of 60 years.

She was a life-long Christian and gounding member of Fife Memorial Methodist Church of Muskogee. In her later years, she enjoyed attending Indian gospel singings.

She was preceded in death by her parents Jackson and Katie; brothers: Dave and Ed Scott;

Wanda is survived by her husband Joe of the home her son Rick Cricklin and wife Betty of Norman; daughter Sandie Weldon and husband Glenn of Midwest City; four granchildren: Riichard Cricklin and wife Stephanie of Oklahoma City, David Cricklin and wife Nikki of Edmond, Debbie (Cricklin Kasych and husband Tom of Mary Esther, FL; Devin Weldon of Oklahoma City and Corey Weldon po Anchorage, AK; two great grand children : Kyle and Sydney Cricklin of Oklahoma City; her uncle Thomas Washington of Okmulgee.

Interment was at Arlington Memorial Gardens in Midwest City.

LOU SPENCER

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Lou Ellen Spencer were held at December 27, with Reverend Malcolm Tiger officiating.

Lou was born on January 22, 1952.

She attened Monroe Elementary, McClain High School, Sequoyah Indian High School and graduated from Chilocco Indian School.

Upon graduating high school, she attended Haskell Indian University and later earned her associates degree from Bacone College.

She devoted much of her time and energy to preserving and teaching about Native Values, traditions and the Euchee language. Lou was affiliated with Pole Cat Ceremonial Grounds, being the head ribbon dancer. She was also a member of the Little Cussettan Baptist Church and the Native American Church for which Lou was well-known member.

In addition, lou was an avid softball player who established herself as one of the “Elite” as she is honored in the Softball Hall of Fame.

Preceding her in death was her father, George Watashe; two brothers: Kenneth and Ronnie Watashe;

two sisters: Lucy Watashe and Sutta Bryant; and son Shane Spencer.

Survivors included: husband Evans (Bill) Spencer; mother Mary Watashe; five sons: Kenneth (Cheyenne) Watashe, wife Tennville and children Sage and Jaiden Watashe from Enid; Paige White and child Maysa Zoda White from Sapulpa; Eric Spencer, wife Laura and children Erica Te-neet-ke Spencer, Jazmyne Oscada Spencer, CireYecke Spencer from Claremore; Yoney Spencer, Wife Janette and children Taygann Day-ya-yane Spencer, Alyssa Sangened Spencer and Sadie Shafa Spencer from Kellyville; and George Watashe and children Cadence Taylor Watashe from Kellyville; Four sisters: Veletta Anderson from Kellyville; Aleta Watashe from Kellyville; Katie Bucktrot from Sapulpa, and Leatrice Bearpaw from Glenpool.

Interment was at the Sunrise Cemetery.

JOHNSON WACOCH

TAHLEQUAH — Funeral services for Johnson were held on October 10, at Cedar Tree Tabernacle with Pastors July Tecumseh and Pat Freeman officiating.

Johnson was born June 7, 1917 in Eufaula to Alex and Rachel (Willingham) Wacoche.

Johnson served our country in the United States Navy. He retired as a nursery man.

His hobbies included watching Sequoyah High School sports for many years.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Alex and Rachel Wacoche; Reverend Willie S. Wacoche, John Loney, Mary Francis and Melissa Lindswy; two granddaughters, two great great granddaughters; three son-in-laws Doug Two Shields, Eddie Martin, and Irwin Durnia.

He is survive by his wife of 70 years, Katie Wacoche; five sons: Watie (Chebon), Ben, Allen, Isaac, Chuck; six daughters: Nancy J. Lopez, Bonnie Two Shields, Susannah Martin, Helen Wilder, Mona



Wacoche

Scholarships

continued from B2

About 5% will have deadlines before January 1, and another 10% or so will have deadlines after April 30. But 85%-90% will be in the first four months of the calendar year. They are not in business the rest of the year. You want to be patient, polite, and persistent in contacting them.

We recommend that your first contact be eight weeks before the deadline. The second contact, if they have not sent you the materials, should be five weeks out. The third contact, if you still do not have the materials, should be three weeks out.

At this point, you need to hit the panic button; call them, fax them, e-mail them, and mail them every day until you get the materials. Have your counselor to help with this, if necessary.

You will want to keep track of your scholarships carefully. You do not want to miss any of them, and you do not want to offend any of them. Put them in chronological order by the date they are due. Use a form something like this form to keep track of them:

Name and	Date	First	Second
Third	Date	Address	Due
Contact	Contact	Sent	Results
Amount			

WRITING YOUR ESSAY

Now that you have found the scholarships, you are ready for the hard part. The easy part is finding them, which is only mechanics. The hard part is talking them out of the money. To do this, you are going to have to think.

How do you talk them out of the money? It is called an essay. Students should go the CTD website in advance of writing, download the CTD application, and review the Essay Outline that is part of the application.

If you have a 3.8 GPA and a score of 25 or higher on the ACT, you should win almost all of the scholarships. But if you send out an essay which is at the C- level, you will be lucky to win 25%, even with your high grades and high ACT score. If you have a GPA of 3.0 and scored a 20 on the ACT, you can still win scholarships, provided that you have a strong essay. A strong essay can overcome grades and test scores that are a little bit weak, but high grades and high test scores cannot overcome a weak essay nearly as well.

There is no “cutoff” for GPA or for ACT/SAT scores. We have awarded scholarships to students with a 2.6 GPA (which is unusual), and have denied scholarships to students with a 3.3 (which is also unusual). We look at the whole student, not just GPA or ACT/SAT scores. Most scholarship organizations do the same thing.

The essay is the most important part of the application process. The essay will have the following characteristics:

LENGTH: five pages.

SIZE OF TYPE: 11 points.

NUMBER OF PARAGRAPHS PER PAGE: eight.

MARGINS: 1.5 inches on all four sides

GRADE YOU WILL GET ON IT: A+

NUMBER OF TIMES YOU WILL WRITE IT: As many as it takes to get an A+.

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE ESSAY: What you are going to do in this world before you die to make it a better place. If you have not thought about this yet, right now is an excellent time to start.

The essay is not about you. It is about a problem that is affecting some people in the world, and what you are going to do about the problem. It is possible to win

scholarships without having a problem identified, but your percentage will drop dramatically. The student who applied to us so he could have a good job, buy a house, have a nice family, and have a nice car, got turned down. Hardly anyone is interested in giving you a scholarship to help only yourself. Many people spend their time raising money for scholarships so they can make the world a better place.

The essay is about insight into a real world problem. It is about leadership. It is about compassion. It is about dedication. It is about persistence. It is about determination. It is about dedication. It is about mental toughness and the ability to see a difficult task through to completion.

Students should start with a five-page essay. Then when they have gotten that essay to the A+ level, they will boil it down to a two-pager. And when they have that two-pager done, they will boil that one down to a one-pager. If the scholarship application calls for 250 words, that is one page. If it calls for 500 words, that is two pages. If there is no page limit spelled out, send them the five-pager. If they do not ask for an essay, and also do not say not to send them an essay, send them one of the three. It can't hurt.

Often Native students are disappointed in their ACT scores. The student who expected to get a 25 instead gets an 18. The 3.8 student who is valedictorian expects to get a 32 but instead gets a 22. Is there that much test bias in the ACT and the SAT? As a person who has worked for years with both The College Board (the owner of the SAT) and the testing firm of Harcourt Brace, I can tell you that test bias alone does not account for these huge differences. They may cause 10% or more, but they do not cause the 40 to 50 point differences that we most often see with Native students. Why do these huge differences occur? It is because Native students in general do not read anything outside

the classroom.

We recommend that students start in their junior year taking the ACT, and that they take it several times as juniors and several times as seniors. CTD will pay for the costs of these tests. Just send us an e-mail with the facts (your name and address, where you attend high school, the cost of the test, when it will be given, what you got on a previous test, what your GPA is, what your intended major is, where you plan to attend college, etc.). If it is a repeat test, tell us what you are doing to improve your score.

There are basically two things students can do to improve their scores. They can start to read books, and they can cram for the test. Kaplan, Princeton, and other cramming/self-study courses are available, and we have found that most high school libraries have one or more of these courses available. We know that students who have GPA of 3.5 or higher, and who usually score a 20 instead of a 25, can improve their scores considerably. We have had students to go from 27 to 32 in four attempts. The cramming, the stress, the strain, and the work involved will pay off when you win lots of scholarships.

Many Native students do not read at all outside the classroom. We are writing a book now called “Reading for College” that will be published at the end of 2006. We will glad to make any chapter in the book available to students, parents, counselors, and teachers for student use, at no charge. All we need is an e-mail address or an address to send it to you. Give us some indication of what your student is interested in (history, general science, classics, aviation, biography, Native American Literature, etc.)

To summarize how we can help, CTD will pay for (1) your travel to the nearest college library if your high

school does not have a set of directories, (2) your cost for taking the ACT or SAT if you cannot afford it and (3) your admissions charges to college applications if you cannot afford it. We will also review your list of scholarships and tell you if your search has been adequate or not. And we will help you with your essay.

RECOMMENDATION: Do not pay anyone to help you with this process. Do not pay an online service to find scholarships for you; do it yourself. Do not pay anyone to help you write your essay; CTD will help you free of charge.

RECOMMENDATION: Do not throw away a scholarship if you miss the deadline. You may be able to apply for it next year. Unless it says “for high school seniors only,” you can apply later. Students who don't know about scholarships until their junior year can still be successful in winning a significant number of them.

RECOMMENDATION: Develop a resume as soon as you start your senior year, or earlier. If you need help, get it from your high school English teacher or counselor, or from us.

RECOMMENDATION: Always convert your raw scores into percentiles or Normal Curve Equivalents (NCEs). Almost no one knows where a 25 on the ACT or a 1200 on the SAT falls on the 1-99 scale, but almost everyone will know the difference between the 45th percentile and the 85th.

RECOMMENDATION: Start taking the ACT or the SAT in the fall of your junior year. If you cannot pay for it, CTD will pay for it. Take it four times as a junior, and four times as a senior, or until you score a 32 or higher, whichever comes first.

RECOMMENDATION: Start reading heavily. Start today and keep it up for life. In college you will be required to read five to ten (5-10) books per week. If you are not doing this already, you will be in danger of being totally lost in college. We do not want you to become a statistic.

RECOMMENDATION: Send us your list of

Lisa Thompson, Joni Wacoche; 41 grand children; 67 great grandchildren; 4 great great grandchildren; several neices and nephews and numerous extended family and friends.

Interment was at the Towie Cemetery.

GRATITUDE

On behalf of Hepsey (Randall) Gilroy, the family would like to give thanks to all who came to support and comfort during the loss of their mother. The family would also like to give thanks to all the individuals who made monetary contributions, and to Rachel Sumka and her assistants who helped prepare the food.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and his office, Bob Arrington and his staff at Tribal Affairs, Lucas Taylor of MCN Communications and his staff, Wilson School, Wilson Indian Community, Wilson Baptist Church, Randall Indian Baptist Church, Dr. Kruger, and the Okemah Hospital staff, George Nigh Rehab staff.

Hepsey Gilroy Family

On behalf of Agnes (Little) Hicks, the family would like to extend their deepest thanks and gratitude to those friends, relatives, and loved ones who have helped through this time of grief during the loss of their mother.

A special thanks to the Okfuskee Council Representatives, Speaker George Tiger, Sefcond Speaker Roger Barnett, Jeff Fife, Belvin Baptist Church, the Okfuskee Indian Community, Buckeye Baptist Church, and the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Roads crew for their generous assistance and support.

Agnes (Little) Hicks Family

On behalf of Jimmie Lee “Jim” Wolfe, the family would like to express their appreciation and gratitude to Creek Nation and especially the employees of the Social Services office for their kind assistance with some of the details concerning the final arrangements for their loved one.

A special thanks to all prayers, call, cards, and visits of members of the Creek Nation during Jim's final illness and after his passing. These have been a source of comfort of the survivors at this time.

Jimmie Wolfe family

keywords before you run Fastweb so we can tell you if we think it is adequate or not.

RECOMMENDATION: Send us your list of scholarships once you have cleaned them up. It will really help if you send them by the Internet. Put your internet, directory, university, and community scholarships into one database and send that along. We will tell you if your search has been adequate.

RECOMMENDATION: Start writing as much as you can to help you with college applications. If you are not writing at least one paper a week, it is an excellent idea to start immediately. If your essay is the first thing you have written in high school, you will have real problems with it.

RECOMMENDATION: Do not let your college counselors put you in classes that are too advanced for you. The typical Native student has not taken geometry, trigonometry, and calculus. If you have not, you should be placed in college algebra and trig first, provided you have had at least two years of algebra in high school. If you have had only one year of algebra, you will need to take advanced algebra in college before you enroll in college algebra and trig.

RECOMMENDATION: If you are an Advanced Placement student, and you have a weighted GPA, give both the weighted GPA and your unweighted (on a scale of 1-4.0) GPA.

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The Hot Corner
by
Jason Salsman

When the clock struck 12 midnight, and the ball slowly dropped in Time Square on January 1st, the year 2007 was ushered in and with it a plethora of new opportunities. Maybe some of us out there have made the al-ways dreaded, seldom kept New Year's resolutions. Maybe we have vowed to change things up a bit in 2007, make them better for ourselves. And maybe the New Year will bring about new and exciting stories in the world of sports. OK, hold up, that's not a maybe, that is a certainty. If there's anything I've learned being a sports fan all my life it's that sports, at all levels, will never be short on drama, passion and raw emotion. That is one thing we can count on year in and year out.

When you look back on 2006, it was truly an amazing year in sports. It was especially kind to yours truly, as my beloved St. Louis Cardinals brought home World Series title number 10, which is good for second all-time. The Oklahoma Sooners were Big 12 Champions in football after a season that started out with awful luck, followed by more bad luck. Testament to the coaching staff and players. Barely making a bowl doesn't cut it in Norman. They are a program built for championships.

Specifically, it was another successful year for the Tahlequah-Sequoyah Lady Indians basketball team. Head coach Bill Nobles' squad has reigned supreme over Class 3A High School girls' basketball now for two years as the back-to-back state champions. This year is no different as Lady Indians seem poised to make a run at a three-peat behind the sensational play of all-star junior guard Angel Goodrich. Last year, as a sophomore, Goodrich took games over for Sequoyah on her way to a second straight state tournament MVP selection. Her stellar play also earned her recognition in the CoachesAid.com "Top 50 Poll," as the state's #1 high school girls' basketball player. In the early stages of this current season, Sequoyah has not only shown perfection, sporting a 10-0 record, but showcased brilliance outside of their class as well. In December they captured the Oklahoma's Best Tournament crown while knocking off some of the premier teams in the state. In the finals they defeated 6A #1 Sapulpa, a team that many believed was the most talented in the state. Believed, that is, until the 3A Native American school who holds there games in "The Place Where They Play," disproved that notion on the court. To me, no team is better. They are the absolute elite as far as high school girls' basketball goes. And I have no hesitation in saying that they will be hoisting a third straight state championship in March. Go ahead and label it; dynasty.

Things are pretty nice on the boys' side as well. Coach Larry Grigg's squad has started out the season 9-1, with some impressive victories along the way. The lone blemish on the record came against 6A #1 Jenks in a thrilling Tournament of Champions semifinal. The Indians are currently ranked third in the state and will be the favorite to challenge the defending champion Millwood Falcons for the championship in March.

You know, one of the main reasons for the success of these teams that I have to mention is the tremendous fan support, not just from the school and it's supporters, but from the state's Native American population that wants to follow a school carrying the banner for Native athletes. The school reently rewarded the loyalty of the fans with a beautiful brand new \$8 million dollar facility that seats over 1,700 people and spans 54,000 square ft. The building is a testament to the fans and what they have meant to the success of the school. Recently at the gym opening I got to talk to Coach Nobles. "I can't tell you how nice it is to always have a home game," he said, referring to the masses of people who travel to see Sequoyah wherever they may be playing. "Our fans are such a huge part of our identity."

Creek Athlete shines in Rock Creek's inaugural season

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

TAHLEQUAH — The inaugural football season for North Rock Creek School was almost a perfect one. The Cougars went through the entire season and play-offs without a loss, storming to a 7-0 record. It is unfortunate that the lone setback had to occur in the state finals of the Organization of Rural Elementary Schools championship at Tenkiller School against Woodall-Tahlequah.

The Cougars did not, however, go down without a fight thanks to the efforts of Creek athlete and split end Trey Dorsey. Dorsey got behind the Woodall defense and scored on a 54 yard strike from quarterback Micheal Cole to put North Rock Creek on the board. He would later score on a two-point conversion, this time on the ground, to complete the scoring for the Cougars. The championship game was a sampling of the successful year had by the 13-year-old Dorsey and his teammates. An undefeated regular season is no small feat, especially when a team is competing in it's first year of competition.

NRC Athletic Director Stanley

Beesley, who played four years of college football and implemented the Cougar offense, talked about how special the first year was for the players. "We had four or five kids who had never even seen a football helmet," he laughed.



"It was amazing to see them perform so well, and to see our support system come out and give them a tremendous boost. We didn't have a field so we were always the visitors, but we'd outnumber and out-yell the home crowds most of the time."

Beesley also mentioned the level of talent that the Cougars possessed. Many of the players, including Dorsey, drew high praise. "Trey is a very special talent, he was one of our most dangerous players on our team, because he could

scored touchdowns. Whether it was as a receiver, on a kickoff or interception return, or running with the ball off a split-end reverse, Trey was putting the ball in the endzone. The good news for North Rock Creek is that they have not seen Dorsey score for the last time. He is only a seventh grader and will be back for another year. Next season his athletic skills will likely be utilized at another position because, according to Beesley, they will "probably move him to tailback."

For the year, Dorsey was the team's leading receiver with 24 catches for nearly 300 yards and 6 touchdowns. He also provided sure-tackling from his position in the defensive secondary. Dorsey is the grandson of Julia Dorsey and great-grandson of Mary C. Wood, both of Shawnee, OK. He is the great-great-grandson of the late Jennie Bear.

"It will be exciting to see Trey and the rest of the boys as the continue their careers into the high school level," explained Beesley. "We feel like the sky is the limit for them, if they continue to work hard."

This generation's "Billy Jack" still a fighter

Davenport High School running back Billy Jack Murphy making his mark

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

DAVENPORT — In 1971, Hollywood actor Tom Laughlin brought a character to the big screen that became a cult figure. "Billy Jack" was a half-breed Indian ex Green Beret veteran of the Vietnam war who fought social injustice, racial discrimination and was anti-establishment to the bone. Some would say he represented the anti-hero of the seventies, others would say he was just plain cool. In 2007, it's a different Billy Jack and a different battle. But he's still cool. This version is fighting would-be tacklers, opposing defenses and anyone who says that a kid from a small school can't be the best running back in the state.

If you haven't heard of Davenport's



Billy Jack Murphy, an enrolled Creek Indian, don't worry you will soon enough. The 5'9", 185 lb junior first splashed onto the scene in 2005 as a sophomore when he led the Bulldog rushing attack. At the end of that year, the fans and coaches knew they had to have something special as he finished with 1,749 rushing yards and 30 touchdowns. That kind of performance would make for a tough act to follow, but Murphy picked up right where he left off leading Davenport to the Class B state championship game this past year while rushing for 2,594 yards and 37 touchdowns. That total was good enough to make him the top rusher in Class B and

the third best rusher in the state overall. He also picked up honorable mention All-State honors from the *Daily Oklahoman* and was selected All-District. His most impressive feat, however, might have been his part in Davenport's 10 game winning streak that led them to the title game. "They (Davenport) really got off to a slow start (1-2), and he was the biggest reason for their turn-around," said Steve Mathis, who covers Davenport football for *The Lincoln County News*. "It just seemed like he was carrying them through that streak."

Murphy's running style changed a bit from last year, it had too. He was more of a punishing runner as a sophomore, carrying extra weight and bowling over defenders instead of out-running them. That kind of style is fun to watch, but usually the end result is a battered, tired runner by the end of the season. This year, he dropped a little weight and has gained quickness to go with his strong running style. "Yeah, last year he definitely looked for the contact a little more," said his father Doug Murphy. "It's just made him even better to add another element to his style of running." And he has made Dad awfully proud. "I'm really proud of him, he's worked real hard."

Next year will be a different scenario for Murphy, he won't sneak under anyone's radar. He will have the bulls-eye placed squarely on his back as teams try to figure out a way to slow down one of the

top running backs in the state. Not that it bothers him too much. "I'm just going to go out there and try to play my game," he said, taking a quick break from the weight room. "I just want to go out and do my best. I can for my team."

He has a humble nature about him that is a rare quality in today's world of super-hyped athletics. He is a young man that stays grounded and wants the best for his team. The team goal was nearly reached last year and Murphy believes they it can be reached in 2007. "Last year, it was just so awesome to be there and be a part of what was going on," he said, talking about being in the state championship game. "This year we know what it takes and know how hard we have to work to get back to that situation. It would be nice to bring it home."

For now, he's just working hard in the off-season. He realizes the challenges that are before him and the things he needs to concentrate on to continue his success. He doesn't want to change his weight again, just "maybe add a few pounds of muscle" so he can keep his tough running style. He is training to become faster so he can run away from all the tacklers that will have him locked in this fall. Through all of this, he has stayed true to himself. "I just want to be me. Not really change who I am, or what I do."

True to himself, fighting for a cause. Just like the "Billy Jack" back in the old days.

Fourth Annual All-Indian March Madness Basketball Tournament accepting entry forms

HENRYETTA — The Fourth Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament is scheduled to be held March 21 - 25 at the Henryetta High School and Junior High gymnasiums. The tournament committee is now accepting entry forms.

The year's tournament field will consist of 40 teams, 20 girls and 20 boys from throughout Oklahoma, as well as Arizona, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, and possibly Texas. Teams, made up of high school all-stars, will compete in a pool play format to determine seedings into a elimination tournament.

Special events will include the following: college career day, all-star game, dance, and a formal awards banquet. Also, 11 scholarships recipients will be announced at the awards banquet. Deadline for entries is March 5.

For more information or to enter a team, visit www.4loveofthegame.org or contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920.



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OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL
Should more teams resort to trick plays in football?



Absolutely, the excitement of trick plays that are called out of the ordinary help to bring a unique style to college football. I mean to play the same type of game each time would only make the game boring. What if Boise State only ran 3 yards and a cloud of dust each time they got the ball?

Oh no! 3rd down and 9, lets try a pass

now, no one will ever know its coming. Besides, old 'trick' plays is what can actually help a team that is not favored to actually have a chance. It also exposes great defenses in a way to prove if they really are that great. Yeah, they can handle an off tackle play, but how do they actually react to something new and unique.



I really don't think so. Call me stubborn, hard-headed or even (gulp) old school! To me it's a football game, not Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus. To have a team run trick plays on you, they're basically saying "hey, we're not good enough to line up with you guys man to man, so we'll just resort to a bag of tricks." I mean, that is so against what the game

of football is all about. What kind of satisfaction can you take out of that? Sure, it levels the playing field and all, but why do we ALWAYS have to see the under-dog overcome? Yes, I watched Boise State's win in the Fiesta Bowl and they are a very good football team. I just wish they had brought helmets instead of balloon animals.



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CASINO NAMING CONTEST

The Oversight Committee for the construction of the new 110 million dollar Tulsa Casino approved a Naming Contest in its February 7, 2007 meeting. Gaming Operations Authority Board (GOAB) was approved to receive all suggestions for names, establish a prize and set rules for picking the name to include full and final authority to make the selection from submitted or other recommendations. Nominations of a name must be submitted by a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen or employees of any of the MCN Casinos. Mail nominations to GOAB, c/o Angela Lemons, GOAB Secretary, P.O. Box 700833, Tulsa, OK 74170 or in person at 1616 E. 81st Street, Tulsa, OK 74137 by the deadline on Monday at 5:00 p.m., February 26, 2007. GOAB will select a name in conjunction with the Oversight Committee by February 28 and deliver the name to the architect for construction purposes.

Tribe assists citizens during and after winter storms

HELP IN THE TIME OF NEED

The icy conditions that have plagued the state of Oklahoma during January has been both inconvenient and dangerous. Several cities have been described as "war zones" with power outages, road-way obstructions and several slick spots for drivers. On Jan. 16, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis signed Executive Order #0701 to the Office of Risk Management for the purpose of assisting with supplies to combat the issues brought on by the severe weather. That order has gone into effect, and now the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be providing recovery assistance to citizens who have been hit hardest by the storm. (See A7 for more details)



Tribal employees connect a generator to the Eufaula Indian Health Center to help restore power during a power outage caused by the ice storms that have plagued Oklahoma communities.

GERALD WOFFORD/MNN

Language preservation fighting for cultural survival

● Oklahoma's Native languages in danger of disappearing at an alarming rate

by Jason Salsman
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — The old saying goes "anything worth having is worth fighting for." Native Americans have indeed found a fight in today's ever-evolving modern world, and their desired outcome is certainly worth the struggle. That fight is for the preservation of self-identity. We often hear about the culture of Native people, but most times it is merely an abstract reference. Native culture is not just something mentioned in fancy speeches or highlighted at ritzy museums, it is a living thing. Culture is what sustains Native people. It's who they are, what they've been and where they're going. But more and more, piece by piece, the cultures of Native tribes are in danger. In danger, that is, unless they take the steps to keep it alive.

According to the Intertribal Wordpath Society, Oklahoma Indian tribes are in danger of losing perhaps the most important facet of culture, their language. Out of the state's 39 Indian tribes, only 10 have funded language preservation programs. Do not cringe, however, if you are a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Since July 2005 the Creek Nation has had a language

program in place, and it's been thriving ever since.



Staff members of the MLP.

"Culture is so important because it's what we do and who we are," said Norma Marshall, the manager of the Mvskoke Language Program (MLP). "In the non-Indian world culture is a ballet, a painting, or an opera. For us we can't separate from culture. It's our language, our clothing, our food."

Marshall points out that the learning process devised by the MLP has reached out to roughly 1,500 students within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The program has devised several programs geared towards practical learning. They have passed out community surveys to gauge where the greatest need for language education is, they have set up curriculum to be taught in Creek community schools and have partnered with the Creek Nation Challenge Bowl event to make learning the language fun and educational. They are also stressing the importance of practice. "The only way the language is going to be more prominent is if we get used to speaking it every day," said

SEE LANGUAGE - A4

Ground breaking held in Holdenville for new casino

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

HOLDENVILLE — On Feb. 6, 2007, the Holdenville Indian Community Center hosted a ground breaking ceremony for a new 6,000 sq. ft. casino. Principal Chief A.D. Ellis was present to sign contracts with Four Feathers Construction and Design, LLC, a Native American owned company located in Kingston. The casino will be located directly behind the community center. Weather permitting construction will begin on Monday, Feb. 12.



Pictured above from left to right are: Jason Nichols, Owen Sapulpa, Holdenville Mayor Jack Barrett, James McGirt, Thomas Yahola, Speaker George Tiger, and Chief A.D. Ellis.

STARLA BUSH/MNN

Tribal offices seeking current addresses

OKMULGEE — Election Board, Citizenship Board, Communications Department and other offices are seeking current addresses for Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens so their office functions can be more complete and accurate. Voters need to verify the currency of their address so they may receive ballots or notices of elections, especially in 2007, which is an election year. Communications Department seeks current addresses to ensure citizens receive current copies of the Nation's newspaper. Citizenship Board seeks current addresses to ensure its operations has current information for all purposes

This article is to inspire citizens to verify the accuracy of their contact information (addresses, telephone numbers

SEE ADDRESSES - A4

From the Office of the Principal Chief

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted on February 1, 2007
I sit here at 9 a.m. this morning and I'm all alone. Weather has caused us to cancel reporting to work until 10 a.m., a good time to think and write.

O k l a h o m a weather has cast several destructive blows our way lately and we will continue to carry on as usual because living here, you always expect the unexpected in our weather. The last ice storm was a wake up call for our tribal government to realize that we were not ready and able to protect and serve our citizens in a time of disaster. Quick work by our emergency people and tribal government allows me to say that we are now ready for



Chief Ellis

most anything.
This office is looking forward to this year as a continuing growth period for our Nation and improvements to all departments. I just received another letter blasting me for not allowing employees off more than one day due to ice and snow on the roads. When I allow all employees off one day with pay, it costs this Nation about \$45,000
I guess I came from the old days when weather wasn't a reason not to work. In those days, if we did not make it into work, we received no pay. We have a job to do here and I am responsible to see that the people's money is spent as wisely as possible. That means we pay people to

work, not stay home. But this is a very good place to work and we respect all employees and treat them, as we would want to be treated.

Everyone please register to vote because the Constitution question must be approved or rejected this year and elections for all tribal officials will be voted on also. My annual State of the Nation Address was delivered Saturday at the January, National Council session. You can see it in its entirety on our web page or possibly some coverage in this newspaper. Our Nation is in very good condition both financially and physically. We're better off than we were this time a year ago and heading toward a future by practicing self-determination through actions, not words. Myto to All!

Quote of the Month: The miracle is not to fly in the air, or to walk on the water, but to walk on the earth.

Mvto.
A.D. Ellis

Letters to the Editor: Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Muscogee Nation News articles bring back memories for citizen

Editor:
I read your very interesting article in the Muscogee Nation News about Mike Berryhill the bow maker. When I was a young man, I also made bows out of the Bois dare wood. He mentioned in the article about finding the proper wood for arrows.
I never used river cane, but I did use the small limbs of the dogwood tree. The limbs grew very straight and I thought they made a good arrow.
Your paper is a great paper and you print some very interesting articles, they bring some good memories from my younger days. If there is some way you could get the information about the arrowwood to Mr. Berryhill I would greatly appreciate it. Myto!
Robert Kinkihee, Sacramento, CA.

Citizen donates gifts to Murrow Children's Home

Editor:
On behalf of the Estemaskokuke Political Party, Peggy Lyda and I took Christmas gifts for the Murrow Home's Children. We had a very informative talk with Ms. Brown, the Manager of the home. We learned that the home can house 21 children and presently have 16 Creeks living there. We also, learned that because of other priorities taken on by the home's funding sources there is a shortage of funds to maintain the homes Murrow Children's Home may have to close in May. It is hoped Creek Nation may seek ways to help the home.
Sincerely,
Jorene Coker, Preston

Legal Notices

In re the Marriage of:
Trina LaShawn Hamm,

Petitioner,

vs.

Jeremy Franklin Hamm,

Respondent

Case No. DV 2006-35
Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Jeremy Franklin Hamm

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2006-35, styled in the re the Marraiage of Trina LaShawn Hamm, Petitioner and Jeremy Franklin Hamm, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a Decree of Dissolution of Marriage from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.
You are notified that you must answer the Petition filed by the petitioner on or before the 20th day of March, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. at which time this matter will be heard by the District Court Judge Patrick E. Moore and the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her Petition.

Given under my hand and seal this 25th day of January, 2007.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
By: Tobie King, Deputy

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOP-)
TION OF:) CASE NO. AD2007-01

S.D.H.,) Before the Honorable Judge Moore
DOB 05/31/2004,) Judge of the District Court
A minor child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PUTATIVE FATHER

TO: Unknown Putative Father
Address Unknown

On January 4, 2007, an Application was filed in this Court for the termination of the parental rights of the putative father of S.D.H., a minor child born out of wedlock at Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, on May 31, 2004, to Amy Sue Harjo, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said application is set for hearing on the 19th day of March, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courtroom, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore. Petitioner(s) have alleged in their Petition that you are the putative father. Petitioners have alleged that your parental rights should be terminated because you have failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish your parental rights with the child.
YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS REGARDING THIS CHILD.
YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOU INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS REGARDING THIS CHILD AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHT HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.
Signed and dated this 26th day of January, 2007

Honorable Judge Moore
Judge of the District Court

District Court Filings for January 2007

Civil: Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Two Thousand fifteen and no/100 (\$2,015.00) Tower Loans v. Tonya Martin-Gordon Courtesy Loans v. Samantha Larney Royal Finance v. Beverly Sullivan Royal Finance v. Marcy Fox Royal Finance v. Jimmie Jesse America's Car-Mart of Sapulpa v. Sheri Tiger	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture Small Claims Small Claims Small Claims Small Claims Small Claims
Protective Orders: Meredith Goodvoice v. Sharon Harris	Ex-Parte
Family Domestic: TCSS, ex rel Patricia Harjo v. Travis Harjo	Petition for Dertermination of Paternity and Establishment of Child Support
Criminal Felonies: MCN v. Betty Griggs MCN v. Brian Williams	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 1: Possession of CDS with Intent to Distribute Ct. 2: Possession of CDS with Intent to Distribute Ct. 3: Possession of Paraphernalia Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Criminal Misdemeanors: MCN v. Amber Wallace MCN v. Jeremy Bilby MCN v. Jeremiah Gibbs MCN v. Jeannie Greenlee aka Jeannie Donetle Honeycutt	Ct. 1: Battery Ct. 1: Public Intoxication Ct. 1: Public Intoxication Ct. 1: Trespassing
Traffic: MCN v. Jeremiah Gibbs MCN v. Krystal White MCN v. Phillip Walker	Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance Expired Tag DUS Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Elza Strander	No Insurance
MCN v. Angela Burwell MCN v. Joshua Peters	Disorderly Conduct

MCN v. Bryce Williamson MCN v. Anthony Barnes	No Insurance No Insurance No Driver's License
MCN v. Stacy Coleman	No Insurance DUS DUS Expired Tag No Driver's License Failure to Carry Valid Insurance DUS DUS No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance DUS
MCN v. Michael Littlebear Jr.	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land Driving without Driver's License Failure to Stop at a Stop Sign No Driver's License DUS Invalid Driver's License Disorderly Conduct Expired Drivers License Expired Tag DUS DUS Expired Tag Expired Tag No Insurance Disorderly Conduct Trespassing No Driver's License DUS DUS No Insurance Invalid Driver's License Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct DUS Leaving Scene of an Accident Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct Open Containe Alcoholic Beverage DUS Driving on Tribal Property without Driver's License Possession of Illegal Drug
MCN v. Sherman Brown	
MCN v. Dustin Price	
MCN v. Carmen Ortega MCN v. Paul Horn MCN v. Jeremy O' Brien MCN v. Karen Bradley MCN v. Billy Hargrove MCN v. Craig Gann MCN v. Elgin Factor MCN v. Robert Anderson	
MCN v. Eric McAuliff	
MCN v. James Walker MCN v. Charles Benefield MCN v. Paulino Gonzales MCN v. Charles Lovell MCN v. Anthony Alexander	
MCN v. Phillip Gordon	
MCN v. William Donahue MCN v. Laduan Cooksie MCN v. Michael Burgess MCN v. Jeffery Smith	
MCN v. Nicole Perry MCN v. Dave Crane	
MCN v. May Ernst	

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.
Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.
The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the desk of the Speaker

HE(N)SCI !!!
The recent ice storm affected a number of our districts and the response by our employees and elected officials must be commended.



Tiger

On January 14th, Phil Booker and James Nichols made arrangements to move our elderly from their housing units north of the Capitol complex to the Human Development building after the loss of their electricity at the units. The next day they went out to the different sectors of the Creek Nation to assist with generators, food and set up shelters for our tribal members. Chief Ellis assisted with the transferring of the elders and National Council members in their own districts checked on the elders and others to make sure they had utilities and groceries. Emergencies has tendency to bring people together and the ability to work together, it certainly did at this time.

On January 18th, the National Council held an emergency session to address legislation that would appropriate funds to assist in emergency recovery efforts of the recent ice storm. Okmulgee District representative Fife authored NCA 07-039 creating and appropriating funds for the establishment of a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Authority. The National Council appropriated \$400,000 for the ability address the recovery efforts and to be prepared for other emergencies in the future. In addition, there were resolutions adopted to declare the Muscogee Creek Nation a national disaster because of the storms.

On January 27th, the National Council held its Quarterly Session and Chief Ellis presented the State of Nation address. A number of state legislators were in attendance as guests. Legislators included, representatives Scott Bighorse, Joe Dorman, Chuck Hoskin, Shane Jett, Lucky Lamons, Skye McNiel, Jerry McPeak, Danny Morgan, Wade Rousselot, Jerry Shoemake, and Dale Turner. Senator Roger Ballenger, and Okmulgee City Manager Bob Baxter was also in attendance. The State Legislator will be convening during the week of February 5th and there are a number of bills that will be of concern to tribal governments.

Senate Bill 38 that was filed by Senator Wilcoxson will seek to make English the official language of Oklahoma government. I expect this to be challenged by tribal governments as well as other groups. It is ironic that Native languages were used to win major conflicts during world wars and yet in Oklahoma where thirty nine sovereign tribal governments exist are expected to accept this latest effort regarding this matter.

On January 30th, Principal Chief Ellis called for an extraordinary session to address the latest proposed tobacco compact. During this session a number of deletions and amendments were offered and accepted. The latest proposal will be submitted to the Governor Henry by Chief Ellis. Whether or not the Governor accepts the proposal is his decision. This latest action I feel is what the National Council has always strived for, and that was good faith negotiations.

Recently, a news story regarding health care was featured during a newscast in Tulsa. The gist of the story was tribal governments in Oklahoma are not allocated enough health care funds to address the needs of their people. This certainly include Muscogee Creek Nation. Other states with less Indian population are receiving more monies than Oklahoma. The structure of funding public health, in particular Indian health care, should change. In order to change this we need to lobby our representatives at the Congressional level for their help. With the makeup of Congress changing in this session this could be the right time. Citizens and elected officials of the Muscogee Creek Nation could assist in this effort.

Once again thank you for your words of encouragement and until next time MVTO!

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE DECEMBER 12, EMERGENCY SESSION.

DEC. 12, EMERGENCY SESSION
ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **THOMAS McINTOSH** AND **LARRY BIBLE**.

VETO MESSAGE:
• **VETO OVERRIDE** (20-4-0) NCA 06-257, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-205 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET WITH EXCLUSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS) RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, AND THOMAS YAHOLA;**
ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• **APPROVED** (23-0-0) TR 06-161, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **ALLEN WIND** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT;**

• **APPROVED** (22-1-0) TR 06-162, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **ALEF “NANCY” GRAHAM** TO SERVE OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SPONSOR: **LENA WIND;** CO-SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT;**

VOTING NO WERE: **RON CLEGHORN, TULSA DISTRICT;**

• **APPROVED** (23-0-0) TR 06-164, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **HOWARD CONDREN** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SPONSOR: **LENA WIND;**

• **APPROVED AS AMENDED** (23-0-0) NCA 06-275, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN'S HOME TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING A MEMORABLE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY FOR THE RESIDENT INDIAN CHILDREN, SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE** (\$630.00);

• **APPROVED** (23-0-0) NCA 06-276, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 35, §8-102 TO CHANGE THE QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES FOR THE TRIBAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT;** CO-SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT.**

DEC. 16, REGULAR SESSION
ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **SYLVANNA CALDWELL.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) NCR 06-007, A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE FAMILY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEDICATION TO THE BETTERMENT OF THE MUSCOGEE

(CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT;**

• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) TR 06-146, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF ON BEHALF OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TO EXECUTE AN EQUIPMENT LEASE AGREEMENT WITH TRIBAL WAIVER ADDENDUM WITH ABBOTT LABORATORIES, INC. AND WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL TO LEASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE OKMULGEE INDIAN HEALTH CENTER SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON;**

• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) TR 06-157, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TRIBAL HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES WITH DSD LABORATORIES, INC. SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE;**

• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) TR 06-158, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT A GRANT PRE-APPLICATION FOR INVESTMENT ASSISTANT PROGRAM FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CLAUDE A. COX OMNIPLEX, SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO;**

• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) TR 06-163, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO BE PLACED ON THE FIRE TRUCK THAT WAS DONATED TO THE WETUMKA FIRE DEPARTMENT BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA;**

CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADD REPRESENTATIVES **SHIRLENE ADE** AND **SYLVANNA CALDWELL** AS CO-SPONSOR(S).

• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) TR 06-167, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE THE ATTORNEY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD AND **DAVID MCCULLOUGH,** SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER;**

• **RETURN TO COMMITTEE** (25-0-0) TR 06-168, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A CREEK TRIBAL CITIZEN RANKING PREFERENCE FOR REHABILITATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES ADMINISTERED BY THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE;**

• **APPROVED AS AMENDED** (25-0-0) NCA 06-156, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKMULGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SMOKE SHOP, MINI CONVENIENCE STORE AND GIFT SHOP, SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE;** Co-SPONSOR(S): **ROBERT JONES; JAMES JENNINGS; BO JOHNSON** AND **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$763,305.00);
• **APPROVED** (22-2-0) NCA 06-255,

A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SILVER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN, SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$20,100.00)

CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADD REPRESENTATIVES **THOMAS McINTOSH** AND **ANTHONY NOTARO** AS CO-SPONSORS.

• **APPROVED AS AMENDED** (25-0-0) NCA 06-259, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION TO ADMINISTER A SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM FOR CITIZENS IN THE OKLAHOMA CITY AREA, SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$26,162.00);

• **RETURN TO COMMITTEE** (22-3-0) NCA 06-260, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO EUFAULA INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE EUFAULA CASINO RENOVATIONS AND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ELDERLY NUTRITION BUILDING, SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$610,802.43)

CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADD REPRESENTATIVES **ANTHONY NOTARO** AND **THOMAS McINTOSH** AS CO-SPONSORS.

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO** AND **THOMAS McINTOSH;**

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• **APPROVED AS AMENDED** (23-1-0) NCA 06-263, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER, SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER;** CO-SPONSOR(S): **PETE BEAVER; LENA WIND; ANTHONY NOTARO** AND **ROGER BARNETT** (\$50,000.00)

• **FAILED** (12-13-0) NCA 06-264, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING SURPLUS PATROL CARS TO THE McINTOSH COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING;**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ROGER BARNETT, EDDIE LaGRONE, BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, RON CLEGHORN, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) NCA 06-265, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR A METAL ROOF FOR YEAGER MISSION METHODIST CHURCH IN YEAGER, OKLAHOMA, SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE;** CO-SPONSOR(S): **THOMAS YAHOLA** AND **SYLVANNA CALDWELL** (\$3,000.00);

• **APPROVED AS AMENDED** (25-0-0) NCA 06-267, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE BRISTOW INDIAN COMMUNITY, CROMWELL INDIAN COMMUNITY AND OKFUSKEE INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$47,367.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• **RETURN TO COMMITTEE** (16-8-0) NCA 06-268, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE 12 PASSENGER VAN FOR TUKVPTCE METHODIST CHURCH; ONE 12 PASSENGER VAN FOR FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH; ONE 12-PASSENGER VAN FOR PRAIRIE SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH; ONE 12-PASSENGER VAN FOR WEWOKA UNITED METHODIST INDIAN CHURCH; ONE 15-PASSENGER VAN FOR YARDEKA BAPTIST CHURCH; ONE 15-PASSENGER VAN FOR SAND CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH; ONE PASSENGER VAN FOR BIG CUSSETAH UNITED INDIAN METHODIST CHURCH; ONE 15-PASSENGER VAN FOR LITTLE QUARSARTY BAPTIST CHURCH; AND ONE 15-PASSENGER VAN FOR DEEP FORK HILABEE CHURCH, SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE;** CO-SPONSOR(S): **THOMAS YAHOLA; SYLVANNA CALDWELL, TRAVIS SCOTT, GEORGE TIGER, ROBERT JONES, LENA WIND** AND **ANTHONY NOTARO** (\$163,100.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, TOM PICKERING, PETE BEAVER, LENA WIND, ROBERT JONES, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, SHIRLENE ADE** AND **SAM ALEXANDER;**

• **APPROVED** (24-1-0) NCA 06-270, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ALLOCATING FUNDS FROM NON-FEDERAL (HOUSING PROCEEDS OF SALE) FOR THE PURCHASE AND REHABILITATION OF REAL PROPERTY (WETUMKA HOSPITAL) LOCATED IN HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA AND APPROVING A BUDGET FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF THOSE FUNDS, SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA;** CO-SPONSOR(S): **SYLVANNA CALDWELL; SHIRLENE ADE** AND **RON CLEGHORN;**

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT;**

• **APPROVED AS AMENDED** (24-1-0) NCA 06-271, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR MRS. **MARTHA BERRYHILL** (AN ORIGINAL ALLOTTEE) AND HER DAUGHTER, SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$53,760.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING;**

• **APPROVED** (25-0-0) NCA 06-272, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE CREEK NATION EYE CLINIC IN OKEMAH FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT;** CO-SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** (\$27,230.00);

• **RETURN TO COMMITTEE** (18-7-0) NCA 06-274, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO 12-PASSENGER VANS FOR CONCHARTY METHODIST CHURCH, INDIAN FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF OAKHURST AND WORD OF LIFE CENTER, SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON;** CO-SPONSOR(S)

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, LENA WIND, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, AND JAMES JENNINGS.**

Legislative Highlights:

by Rita Williams

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council held their quarterly session on January 27, 2007. Among the legislation introduced and passed by the National Council was special appropriations for twenty-four (24) church vans.

Tukvptce District Representative Shirlene Ade, was one of the four district representatives who authored legislation for church vans and for the construction of a multipurpose building for the Wetumka Indian Community and Elderly Nutrition Program. Representative Ade said helping churches has been a rewarding effort and many of the Creek churches have little or no outside revenues. “Most of my legislation has been to assist these established churches who are in need and have been a part of our communities for over one hundred years or more. Many of our older native churches speak our language and sing our Creek songs, this is who we are and an important part of our culture. I am glad that we as a council are doing our part to assist our churches and communities.” Councilwoman Ade also authored legislation to construct a new community and elderly nutrition site for Wetumka. Shortly after her first term in office, the Wetumka Indian Senior Citizens asked for their own elderly nutrition center. “Currently the community and

elderly nutrition program are sharing the same space, said Representative Ade, and they have just outgrown the building.” The Wetumka Indian Community Center was the first building to be built by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Creek District Representative Roger Barnett's legislation for church vans and a bill to support Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church for its 100th year celebration also passed. Representative Barnett believes the Tribe needs to continue to provide support for Creek churches when resources are available to accommodate their spiritual needs. “Our people don't ask for much, but when they come to me and ask for my assistance and I know we have the resources available, I will do what I can to make it happen.” “Our churches who are celebrating their 100th year certainly proves the dedication and service to the Creator. It's a reflection on our government through special appropriations that we have been prosperous and able to help our churches.”

Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind's legislation passed for special appropriations to assist churches with vans, assist an elderly with medical expenses and appropriating funds to sponsor the 25th annual “Protecting our children” National American Indian Conference On Child Abuse and Neglect. Representative Wind stated, “the traditional churches have been overlooked for along time and they have been the foundation for our council leaders today.” “Our Indian churches are what

most of us know. My belief is, the money is not lost but returned threefold , whatever we distribute to churches, associations, and ceremonial grounds comes back to our tribe, it's a spiritual investment.” Representative Wind is a committee member of the Community Services and Cultural Committee, one of the standing committees whose jurisdiction is the Health Systems. “ I introduced legislation to assist an elder with medical expenses who “fell through the cracks,” even though we try hard to help, we do have policies we have to adhere to and sometimes this can become difficult and hinders our ability to address their need. But, whenever its an elder who is on minimal income or maybe the system failed to take them beyond their resources, sometimes we have to be the buffer and do what we can as their representative.”

Representative Wind also authored legislation to appropriate funding for the “National Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect.” This legislation will help to sponsor this annual national event. According to Councilwoman Wind, the Creek Nation is sometimes the largest sponsor, by doing so the Nation becomes a part of this major awareness and advocate for the Indian Child Welfare Program. “We want our families to be healthy and functional and this is one of the avenues to address these needs.” Okfuskee District Representative Wind has her Bachelor degree in Elementary Education and Masters in Gifted Education.

Creek District Duke Harjo intro-

duced legislation passed by the council to, appropriate funding for the Murrow Indian Childrens Home in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Representative Harjo was a former resident of the Murrow Indian Childrens home along with his three brothers. Currently, the home has twenty-two children, sixteen are Muscogee (Creek) and six are Cheyenne/Arapaho. Mr. Harjo will quickly tell you that he is an advocate of taking care of our Indian children no matter what tribe they are. “When I was young me and my brothers were placed in this home. We had no other place to go and were treated well, we were safe, had three meals a day, sent to church and school and were all treated the same.” Murrow home has been established since the civil war by Rev. J.S. Murrow a missionary in Indian Territory. The children are no longer “orphans” but dependent, neglected ones, who are sent to live at Murrow Home by courts and social agencies.

Okmulgee District Representative Keeper Johnson was also among the four who sponsored legislation for five church vans for Concharty Methodist, Indian Fellowship Baptist of Oakhurst, Word of Life Center, Arbeka Baptist and Arbeka Methodist. He also sponsored legislation to purchase a van for the Okmulgee Indian Community center and legislation authorizing a special appropriation to fund the remainder of the cost of a handicap-accessible van for Twin Hills Indian Community.

CLUB 21

Join the club, and earn your share of \$23,500 each week during our "Club 21" promotion in the blackjack pit. Club 21 occurs every Monday through Thursday with half hour cash drawings for \$250 from 12 pm to 6 pm. Come back on Sundays during the same time as we up the ante and we award three winners each hour \$500. All players will earn a \$10 bonus for suited blackjack of clubs and everyone else at the table earns our famous \$5 Envy Bonus. If you receive a suited blackjack of clubs or buy in for \$100 you will receive an entry into the Sunday through Thursday drawings. (Sunday – Thursday)

thing about the DVD's," said Marshall. "We'll be giving them out at the schools and when they are at home the parents can watch, and the whole family can begin to learn our traditional language."

So don't worry about the Mvskoke language going anywhere, it belongs to our people, so it's in good hands.

Beginning next month, the *MNN* will include a language section created by the Mvskoke Language Program.

For more information about the Mvskoke Language Program, contact Norma Marshall at (918) 732-7641.

Outline of Day Two – Fri., Mar. 9th , 2007

8:30...Opening Remarks – Judge Patrick Moore
9:00...Rights of Way and Land Issues - Judith Royster, Prof. of Law, TU
10:00.....Break
10:05...Employment Issues & Workers Comp. on Tribal Lands
- Assoc. Dean Vicki J. Limas, Prof. of Law, TU
11:00...The Sac and Fox Case and It's Implications
- Bill Rice, Prof. of Law, TU
12:00...Complimentary Lunch – Culinary Arts Chefs, OSU
1:30....Tax Issues in Indian Country - Tai Helton, LL.M., Prof. of Law, OU
2:20.....Break
2:30...Federal Indian Gaming Regulations
- National Indian Gaming Commission Representative
3:20...Issues of Tribal Policy and Procedures
- John Williams, JD, Lead Counsel, The Williams Companies
4:30...Closing Comments and Evaluations

Adjourn

Regardless of your background, whether new to the field, or a seasoned practitioner of Indian Law, our previous attendees will tell you they were engaged, enthused and educated by leaders in this vital and rapidly growing practice area.

2007 Doing Business In Indian Country

March 8th-9th, 2007

Tuition: \$100 for all attendees who pre-register on or before Feb. 23, 2007

Walk-Ins: \$150 (space avail.)

13 hours of CLE credit ♦ Includes 1 hour of Ethics

Name _____

Firm/Org. _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____

Zip _____ **OBA Mbr? Yes ☐ No ☐ OBA#** _____

E-mail _____

Checks payable to **MCN District Court** – CLE & mail this form to:
MCN District Court, P.O. Box 652, Okmulgee OK 74447
Questions: **Call the MCN District Court at 918.758.1400**

Health System welcomes new Chief Executive Officer

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health System welcomes Judy Aaron as their new Chief Executive Officer of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System Board of Directors approved resolution HSBR 2006-68 during a Special Board meeting on July 20, 2006 with seven members attending by a vote of four in favor and two



against and zero abstentions. TR 06-125 a Tribal Resolution of the MCN confirming the nomination and appointment of Judy Aaron to the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health System was enacted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council on the 26th day of August, 2006 with 23 members attending with a vote of 17 in favor and six against with zero absten-

tions. This was approved during the National Council's regular monthly meeting. Aaron began working on October 23, 2006.

Judy Aaron has resided in Sapulpa for approximately six and a half years, with her husband Mitchell, and three daughters: Megan, Amy, and Emily. Aaron belongs to the Deer clan, and her tribal town is Green Leaf. She is of Creek and Choctaw descent.

Her parents are Carolyn (Willie) and Eugene John of Idabel, Oklahoma. Her maternal grandparents were Maryland (Harjo) and George Willie of Morris, Oklahoma. Judy's paternal grandparents were Betsy (Shaw) and Cornelius John of Idabel, Oklahoma.

Aaron's educational background consists of a Bachelors of Science from Southeastern Oklahoma State University where she majored in Chemistry,

and minored in Mathematics. She received her Masters of Public Health in Administration from the University of Oklahoma.

Aaron has 13 years of experience in health care serving in the following positions: Quality Improvement Officer and Administrative Officer for Clinton Indian Hospital, Indian Health Service, Clinton, OK.; Health Systems Administrator for Sapulpa Indian Health Center for Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Privacy/Security Officer for Saint Francis Health System, Tulsa, OK and most recently served as a Clinic Manager for Warren Clinic Physician practices.

"I have had the honor of serving the Citizens of Creek District as their National Council Representative for one term and have enjoyed the opportunity to participate as the Chairperson of Sapulpa Creek

Indian Community Center for approximately five years," said Aaron. "I currently serve Little Cussetah United Methodist Church, located in the Schuller and Wilson communities as the local part-time Pastor, and have been a Minister for three years with the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference."

Aaron looks forward to working with members of the health system and improving services to tribal citizens. "The greatest joy I have received since becoming a member of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System team is meeting the staff and finding out we all have the dream of seeing a successful health system. Please join us in our efforts to become an outstanding health system, and I ask of you to offer up prayers for us in this endeavor. May we serve you well in all we do."

February is American Heart Month

CDC Report on Heart Disease

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States and is a major cause of disability. Almost 700,000 people die of heart disease in the United States annually. That is about 29% of all U.S. deaths.

Heart disease is a term that includes several specific heart conditions. The most common heart disease in the United States is coronary heart disease, which often appears as a heart attack. The chance of developing coronary heart disease can be reduced by taking steps to prevent and control factors that put people at greater risk. Additionally, knowing the signs and symptoms of heart attack are crucial to the most positive outcomes after having a heart attack. People who have survived a heart attack can also work to reduce their risk of another heart attack or a stroke in the future.

For more information please visit www.cdc.gov.

Partnership Board to place teams in Tulsa Heart Walk

TULSA — The Muscogee Nation Partnership Board is currently putting teams together to participate in the Tulsa Heart Walk on March 31st at LaFortune Park. The opening ceremonies will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the walk starting at 9:00 a.m. The LaFortune Park track is 3.2 miles long, however, participants are not required to walk the entire distance.

Walkers are encouraged to raise donations that will go directly to the American Heart Association and participants that raise at least \$100 will receive a walk T-shirt. Research funded by the American Heart Association has led to such major advances as: CPR, bypass surgery, artificial heart valves, pacemakers, clot-busting drugs, high blood pressure medication.

Currently, there are three team leaders: Neenah Emarthle, Social Security; Marcus Proctor, Tobacco Prevention; and Shawn Partridge, Family Violence Prevention. Participants may join one of these three teams or can feel free to form their own teams. If you are interested in participating in the Tulsa Heart Walk please contact Denise McCrary at (918) 732-7864. Partnership Board to place teams in Tulsa Heart Walk.

Tips For Exercise: Getting Started

by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program

One of the hardest parts of exercise is getting started. Whether you have a

structured exercise program or just want to add it to your daily routine, it can lead to a healthier body. Swimming, cycling, jogging, skiing, aerobic dancing, walking or any of dozens of other activities can help your heart stay healthy. Whether it is a structured exercise program or just part of your daily routine, all exercise will add up to a healthier heart. Remember to always see your doctor before beginning exercise if you have been sedentary, are overweight, or have a high risk of heart disease or any other chronic health problem. If you have diabetes, it is recommended you have your feet checked at your local clinic before beginning an exercise program.

Wear comfortable, well fitted footwear and comfortable, loose-fitting clothing that is right for the weather and the activity; Start slowly and build up to 30 minutes of activity on most or all days of the week (or whatever your doctor recommends). If you don't have a 30-minute block of time, try two 15-minute sessions to meet your goals; Exercise at the same time of day so it becomes a regular part of your lifestyle. For example, you might walk every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from noon to 12:30 p.m.

Drink water before you exercise, while exercising and after exercising to keep your body hydrated (but check with the doctor, because some people need to limit their fluid intake). Ask family and friends to join you. You'll be more likely to stick with it.

Note your activities on a calendar or in a logbook. Write down the distance or length of time of your activity and how you feel after each session. If you miss a day,

plan a make-up day or add 10–15 minutes to your next session.

Use variety of exercise to keep your interest up. Walk one day, go swimming the next, and then go for a bike ride on the weekend. Choose activities that are fun, not exhausting. Develop a list of several activities that you can enjoy. Exercise will never seem boring or routine. Use music to keep you entertained and that will get you motivated.

Join an exercise group, health club or the YMCA. Many churches and senior centers offer exercise programs too. Remember to get your doctor's permission first. Look for chances to be more active during the day. Walk the mall before shopping, choose a flight of stairs over an escalator, or take 10–15 minute walking breaks while watching TV or sitting for some other activity. Don't get discouraged if you stop for a while. Get started again slowly and work up to your old pace;

Don't exercise right after meals, when it's very hot or humid, or when you're feeling sick; Find a convenient time and place to do activities. Try to make it a habit, but be flexible. If you miss an exercise opportunity, work activity into your day another way. Surround yourself with supportive people. Decide what kind of support you need. Do you want them to remind you to exercise? Participate with you regularly or occasionally? Allow you time to exercise by yourself?

Keep a record of your activities. Reward yourself when you reach your goals (avoid using food as a reward). Nothing motivates like success!



CDC warns against giving toddlers, babies cold medicine, cough syrup; three deaths, more in ER

ATLANTA (AP) – More than 1,500 toddlers and babies wound up in emergency rooms over a two-year period and three died because of bad reactions to cold or cough medicine, federal health officials reported Thursday.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned parents not to give common over-the-counter cold remedies to children under 2 years old without consulting a doctor.

The deaths of three infants six months or younger in 2005 led to an investigation that showed the children all had high levels of the nasal decongestant pseudoephedrine, up to 14 times the amount recommended for children ages two to 12. The study found 1,519 Emergency Room cases from 2004 and 2005 involving young children and cold medicine.

The CDC said it's not known how much cold or cough medicine can cause illness or death in children

under two years old., but there are no approved dosing recommendations by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for that age group.

The American Academy of Pediatrics first advised parents in 1997 about the risks of complications and overdose potential with certain cough suppressants. Last year the American College of Chest Physicians advised doctors not to recommend cough suppressants and over-the-counter cough medications to young children

because of the risks.

Dr. Michael Shannon, chief of emergency medicine at Children's Hospital Boston, said it's common, especially in the winter, to see emergency room cases of toddlers given cough or cold medicine.

"Pediatricians have for years, particularly for the last five years, been for the most part trying to dissuade parents from giving young children common cold preparations," Shannon said.

Dr. Michael Marcus, director of pediatric pulmonology, allergy and immunology at Maimonides Infants and Children's Hospital in New York, said, "The best thing parents can do is support with fluids and lots of kisses and time, because lots of infections are viral and will pass in a few days. The medications have a greater potential for harm than the infections you are trying to treat."

For more information please visit CDC online at www.cdc.gov.

Frequently Asked questions about MCN housing programs

How do I know if I am eligible for any housing programs?

Although each program has its own specific requirements here are some of the basic eligibility requirements.

- An applicant must qualify as a family (includes a family with or without children, an elderly family, a near elderly family a disabled family and a single person). At least one family member must be of Indian descent.
- An applicant must be 18 years of age.
- An applicant must be low income living in or wish to live in the Creek Nation boundaries except for the Mortgage Assistance Program which includes the state of Oklahoma.
- Applicant's income must be within the national median income as set by HUD. Income limits are adjusted for family size and updated on an annual basis.
- The applicant will be required to provide all information requested on the application, necessary forms and certifications. All information and statements made by the applicant are subject to verification.

Can I apply if I currently live out of state?

An applicant may apply for any of the Housing Program services without presently living within the Creek Nation but if determined eligible must be willing to live and accept services within the Creek Nation boundaries. In the case of the Mortgage Assistance Program the applicant must be willing to purchase or build, and live within the State of Oklahoma.

I am in the military and stationed outside the state. Can I still apply for a house?

Yes, you may apply for any of the Home Ownership programs regardless of your military status. You will be subject to the same eligibility requirements and preferences any applicant must meet. For any applicant to take possession of a house they must be willing and able to make the home their primary residence which must be located within the Muscogee (Creek Nation) boundary. If a person is stationed outside the Muscogee (Creek) boundaries becomes eligible and is offered a home, their immediate family (spouse and children) may occupy the home even if the primary applicant cannot because of military obligations.

If I am a tribal member other than Creek but within the Creek boundaries am I still eligible for a home?

You may apply and be eligible; however, preference will be given to Creek citizens with families, regardless of approval date. According to policy, preferences are given in this order:

- 1) Eligible Creek citizens who are involuntarily displaced by Government agencies or natural disasters, including fires.
- 2) 4/4 Creek families the elderly, disabled handicapped.
- 3) Creek families, the elderly, disabled, handicapped and single people 1/2 or more.
- 4) Creek families, the elderly, disabled, Handicapped, and less than 1/2.
- 5) Other Indian Tribes

Do I have to already own land to be eligible for a new construction home?

No, in most cases new construction houses are built on land acquired by HACN. You may use land that you have readily available but it must meet all environmental requirements.

What is donated property?

Property that an applicant is willing to donate

to Housing in order to build them a home.

Is it faster if I have land to build a home on?

If title to the land is free and clear the process may be speeded up. Undivided, restricted, or unprobated land will often slow the process.

If I want to donate property how much will I need?

Because rural sites will require an individual sewage system housing recommends at least 2 1/2 acres. If the soil will not support a septic system an alternative system must be constructed requiring the 2 1/2 acres.

What size house would I receive?

House size is determined by number of bedrooms. The number of bedrooms is based on family size.

What happens to the house if the homebuyer dies before paying the house off?

When you sign the contract to move into your house, you will select one successor (a person you want the house to go to in the event of death). Your successor has to be an immediate family member, basically a grandparent, parent, brother, sister, or child, and a member of a federally recognized tribe. The chosen successor must also meet all Homeownership program eligibility requirements.

Does Housing provide any home repair services?

The Rehabilitation of Privately-Owned Homes Program provides assistance to existing homeowners. The scope of items included under the program may include roof repair, foundation repair, plumbing, electrical, sewer systems, HVAC repairs, or installations. Not included under the program are general maintenance, cosmetic repairs, or replacement of major appliances, such as, refrigerator, stove, washer, or dryer.

Does Housing have any home loan programs.

Housing has two home loan programs. The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help eligible clients with grant assistance for typical mortgage loans costs, such as down payments and closing costs. The recently developed Direct Lending Program provides eligible clients a 0% loan for 25 years to construct or purchase their own home according to HUD regulations. Direct Lending clients must meet the same eligibility requirements as the Lease with Option to Purchase program.

Does Housing provide home coverage?


Housing provides structural coverage for homes still under the Lease With Option to Purchase Program until they are paid off. The Housing Division also provides affordable coverage to its Creek Citizens who live within the state of Oklahoma and own their home.

How do I find out more information about these programs?

Contact the Housing Division at 918-756-8504, Toll-free 1-800-259-5050, or go to our website at www.creeknationhousing.org and email us at webmail@creeknationhousing.org. Our offices are located at 2951 N. Wood Dr., Okmulgee, OK.

How do I apply?

Each applicant wishing to participate in any Housing program must submit in person, a complete, signed, and dated written application to the Housing Division Admissions Department for processing according to specific program eligibility requirements. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED**



Helping our Tribal Citizens Realize the Dream of Homeownership

Providing help through the Mortgage Assistance Program

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.





For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DIVISION OF HOUSING

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes. The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses. To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence. The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property. The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

SAFETY TIP

COOKING FIRES

Cooking fires are a major cause of home fires. They are usually caused by cooking oil overheating (without someone to watch it), grease that has accumulated on the stove or range hood, and dish towels or pot holders left too close to burners.

Contracting/Employment Opportunities

If you live in HUD assisted housing you may qualify as a section 3 resident or a section 3 business and may be eligible for contracting and/or employment opportunities. Please contact Mr. Alan Kelley at 918-752-3249 for more information.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation assists tribal citizens during and after winter storm

OKMULGEE — The icy conditions that have plagued the state of Oklahoma during the past month have been both inconvenient and dangerous. Several cities have been described as “war zones” with power outages, road-way obstructions and several slick spots for drivers. Dangerous winter weather is not something that is likely go away in the future. Thanks to the efforts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Administration, Creek citizens living in Creek communities, will be assured of receiving timely aid and recovery assistance when the conditions hit Oklahoma.

On Jan. 16, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis signed Executive Order #0701 to the Office of Risk Management for the purpose of assisting with supplies to combat the issues brought on by the severe weather. That order has gone into effect, and now the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be providing recovery assistance to citizens who have been hit hardest by the storm.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens will now have the ability to seek disaster assistance from the tribe by attending the Disaster Recovery Centers that have recently been set up throughout the Nation's jurisdiction. These locations are: Eufaula Indian Community (599 Birkes Rd. Eufaula, OK). Opened February 7th,

13th, 20th and 22nd from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Checotah Indian Community Center (500 Owens Ave. Checotah, OK). Opened February 5th, 15th, 20th and 22nd from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Muscogee Community Center (111 S. Virginia. Muskogee, OK). Opened February 5th, 7th, 13th, 20th and 22nd from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In addition citizens can apply at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department in Okmulgee Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. until February 23rd.

February 23rd will be the last day to apply for assistance. When attending the centers, Creek citizens must present information confirming enrollment, current utility bill to demonstrate residence within the area of Creek Nation jurisdiction for disaster aid, and all receipts regarding expenses incurred as a result of the disaster. Also, Creek citizens not able to physically attend can call by phone to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Hotline at (918) 732-7911.

For more information, or to receive assistance contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management at (918) 732-7794 or 1-800-482-1979.

Checotah head start now accepting applications for the 07-08 school year

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start is currently accepting applications for enrollment. You will need the following items turned in with your application: state certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income, and if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card. Your child will also need a dental and a physical completed. All races and ethnics may apply.

If you are interested, please begin the application process now as it does take some time to complete.

Headlands Indian Health Careers accepting applications for summer youth program

OKLAHOMA CITY — The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center is now accepting applications for its 2007 Headlands Indian Health Careers Program, to be held June 9 through July 21 on the OU Norman campus.

American Indian high school seniors and first-year college students who are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions are encouraged to apply for this intense six-week enrichment program offering miniblock courses in calculus, chemistry, physics and biology. These courses are designed to increase students' knowledge and prepare them for the required college-level math and science coursework in pre-health programs.

Students will gain experience in the laboratory, strengthen their com-

munication and writing skills, and attend interactive presentations at the OU Health Sciences Center colleges of Public Health, Allied Health, Medicine, Pharmacy and Nursing. Field excursions to health clinics and hospitals also are included.

Travel, lodging and meal expenses will be provided for each student accepted into the program.

Applications for the Headlands program can be found at www.headlands.ouhsc.edu or by calling Carla Guy at (405) 271-3090, ext. 46885. Application deadline is March 15.

The Headlands program is sponsored by the Oklahoma Native American EXPORT Center, with funding from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health.

For more information call Esther Morgan at (405) 379-3485 or Vicky at 918-756-5915.

Miss Indian World taking applications

ALBUQUERQUE, NM.— Applications for Miss Indian World Pageant will be accepted until March 20, 2007.

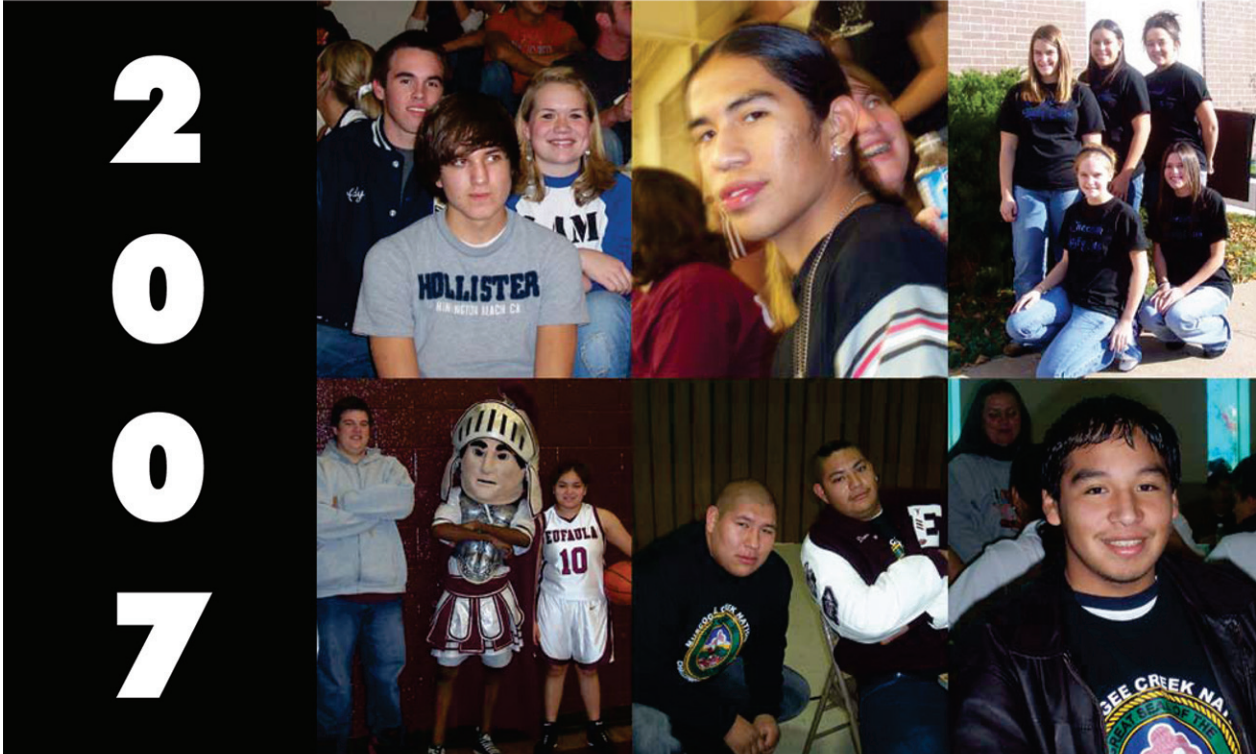
The concept for Miss Indian World originated in 1983 in Albuquerque, NM. Indigenous, young women from all over North America compete for the most prestigious crown.

Contestants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible in order to prepare for the competition, pageant, and raffle ticket sales. If you have any questions please e-mail: zell@gonmail.com or write to Miss Indian World Pageant c/o Gathering of Nations; 3301 Coors Road NW, #R300, Albuquerque, NM 87120 or call (505) 836-2810 or Fax: (505) 839-0475.

Display cases under structural design

OKMULGEE — Display cases in the lobby of our Capitol Complex are currently under structural redesign and will not be accepting items until further notice. It is with great regret this notice is published.

If more information is needed or if you would like to submit your items for future display please contact please contact Sunny Tiger at (918) 732-7823 or e-mail sunnnyt@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



TO APPLY CALL: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING AT
(800) 482-1979 OR (918) 732-7775 & 7776

Applications will be taken over the phone **ONLY** from
JANUARY 29, 2007 - MARCH 30, 2007
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M.



Mission Statement...

The Summer Youth Employment Program is designed to provide Native Americans between the ages of 16 and 21 with work experience and the opportunity to develop life skills. Applicants call to apply and those determined eligible are provided with a summer job in their local community. All participants work forty hours a week. The eight-week program helps young people gain experience, training, responsibility and money.

Benefits...

- College students welcome
- Will work around summer classes
- Full time employment

Requirements...

- No educational requirements
- Must live inside the eleven county boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Applicants must be enrolled with any Federally Recognized Tribe (do not have to be a Creek citizen)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is currently recruiting for the following openings:

Patient Registration Clerk - Eufaula

The purpose of this position is to provide technical and clerical duties and provide support to Medical Record and Health Information staff of the assigned facility. Incumbent interviews patient to obtain pertinent data and information for insurance and billing purposes, updating records data integrity, etc. Related duties will be assumed as assigned.

Case Manager - Diabetes Program - Lackey Hall

The purpose of the position is to provide case management to patients meeting the Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention Grant criterion. Incumbent monitors patient progress and coordinate clinic and community resources to assist patients in reaching cardiovascular disease prevention targets.

Medical Technologist - Coweta (Re-advertise)

The purpose of the position is to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of disease by performing moderately complex and highly complex procedures in a specific area of the Laboratory. Incumbent is under the direct supervision of the Medical Technologist Supervisor. Provide data in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

Diabetes Clinical Educator/Coordinator - Okemah

The purpose of the position is to provide and coordinate diabetes education and coordinate diabetes care services provided through the Diabetes Program of the Musco-

gee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS). Incumbent will provide foot care and serve as an educational resource in proper foot care and treatment for persons with diabetes.

Environmental Technician - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to maintain an aesthetic, clean and safe environment within the health care facility for patients and their families, Health System staff, visitors and the general public. Incumbent is responsible for performing routine housekeeping tasks throughout the Koweta Indian Health Center located in Coweta, OK. Supervision is provided by the Environmental Services Supervisor.

Patient Registration Clerk - Okemah

The purpose of this position is to provide technical and clerical duties and provide support to Medical Record and Health Information staff of the assigned facility.. Incumbent interviews patient to obtain pertinent data and information for insurance and billing purposes, updating records data integrity, etc. Related duties will be assumed as assigned.

Lab Technician - Okemah

The purpose of the position is to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of disease by performing moderately complex and highly complex procedures in a specific area of the Laboratory under the direction of the Medical Technologist when necessary. Incumbent will provide data and laboratory test results in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

Cook's Aide - Muscogee (Part-time)

As a member of the Kitchen Staff of the assigned facility within the Elderly Nutrition Program, the purpose of this position is to assist the Head Cook in performing a full range of cooking procedures for the citizens of the community served. This includes the complete operations of the kitchen. This position is located in the Elderly Nutrition Program of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

Dental Assistant - Coweta

The purpose is to provide a variety of clerical, housekeeping, and clinical functions, which aid the dental team in the performance of their assigned duties. This assistant benefits the designated population through providing adequate dental services.

Physician

The purpose of this position is to provide health care to the designated population of the Muscogee Creek Nation Health System (MNHS) in accordance with the health system guidelines, policies and procedures. Delivery of services are provided in accordance with HIS guidelines, JCAHO standards, State and Federal guidelines and standards and accepted standards of practice as set forth by the American Medical Association or American Osteopathic Association. Incumbent reports to the CMO. Administrative support and supervision is provided by the HSA. This is an exempt position as applicable to the provisions of the FLSA.

Pharmacy Technician - Okmulgee

The purpose of this position is to provide support and assistance to the pharmacist in the daily operation of the pharmacy.

Scholarship pageant committee is seeking past, present, and future princesses

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Princess Scholarship Pageant committee extends invitation to all former MCN Princesses to the 2007 Princess Pageant in Henryetta June 1 & 2, 2007. Former Princesses will be recognized during pageant. RSVP by May 4, 2007 by calling KoKo Lowe at (918) 732-7649 or (800) 482-1979 ext. 7649.

Past Tribal Royalty
Miss Muscogee Nation Princesses

1973–74 Debbie Shirley
1976–77 Rita Beaver
1977–78 Ginger Lee
1978–79 De niece Timothy
1979–81 Kathy Brown
1981–82 Leslie Barichello
1982–85 Alice King
1985–86 Rhonda Richards
1986–87 Melinda Taryole
1987–89 Rhonda Harjo
1989–90 Janita Screechowl
1990–91 Kristi Herndon
1991–92 Kristi Herndon
1992–93 Leigh Downing
1993–94 Marva Jackson
1994–95 Corina Lowe
1995–96 Royce Grammer
1996–97 Bobbie Frye
1997–98 Terrie Endres
1998–99 Angela Ramos
1999–2000 Kandice Buck
2000–01 Sunny Roberts
2001–02 Dawn Thompson
2002–03 Jade McIntosh
2003–04 Felicia Factor
2004 -05 Victoria Mills
2005 -06 Katie Burden
2006 -07 Melanie Frye

Past Senior Miss Royalty
2001-2002 Pearl Thomas
2002-2003 Bessie Factor
2003-2004 Katie Smith
2004-2005 Fannie Barnett

Muscogee Nation ladies, you know you have what it takes to represent our Nation? So why don't you pin your ribbons on your dress and compete for one of five categories of the Miss Muscogee Nation Princess pageant.

The Muscogee Nation princess pageant committee is looking for women and little ladies to compete for Division I-II-III, Jr Miss, Miss Muscogee and Sr. Miss. The MCN Princess pageant committee is recruiting creek



Past and Present Sr. Miss Muscogee, Back row: '01-02 Pearl Thomas, Sitting from left to right: '04-05 Fannie Barnett, '05-06 Mulsie Long, '06-07 Mary Gooden

females to compete in the '07-'08 pageant. Ages for Division I is 4 - 6 years old. Division II is 7 - 9 years old, Division III is 10 - 13 years old. Jr. Miss is 14 - 16 years. old. Miss Muscogee Nation 17 - 22 years and Sr. Miss 55 years old.

Contestant Application Requirements

- Must be 1/4 Creek or more for all divisions.

- Must attend the MANDATORY contestant practice and orientation on May 26, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at the Henryetta High School Auditorium.

- Must be prepared to take a program portrait in traditional dress on May 26, 2007.

- Must attach a copy of your Creek citizenship card. CDIB cards are not acceptable.

- Must be able to make major appearances which will require some evenings and weekends.

- Must realize this is a public position representing the Creek Nation and be aware that conduct and manner must be honorable during the yearly reign.

- Must be willing to sign a contract stating royalty guidelines and expectations.

- Must submit the completed application by 5:00 p.m. on May 2, 2007.

The Pageant will be held at Henryetta High School Auditorium on: Miss Muscogee Nation and Junior Miss Muscogee Nation - June 1, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.; and Senior Miss

and Little Miss Divisions - June 2, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

For Senior Miss and Little Miss Contestants

Appearances for these divisions will be limited and at the discretion of the Pageant Committee.

For Miss and Junior Miss Contestants only:

- Must not be married or have been married.

- Must not have children or have had children.

For Miss Muscogee Nation only:

- Must be a high school graduate prior to the Creek Festival.

- Must submit to a drug test.

For the newly crowned Royalty only:

- Must attend the MANDATORY Royalty training and orientation on June 2, 2007 from 4-6 p.m. at the Human Development building at Creek Nation.

- Must attend the Royalty Reception on June 9, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Creek Council House.

Official appearances begin June 14, 15 and 16, 2007 at the Creek Nation Festival. For more information about applications contact: Mona "Koko" Lowe at: Muscogee Language Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or (918) 732-7649 or (800) 205-3705.

TRIBAL COLLEGE: ACCREDITATION

by Blue Clark, Vice Chair, Board of Regents, College of Muscogee Nation

You have received a diploma for your high school. Your family is proud of your accomplishment. The high school graduation diploma and the hours of credits taken to receive it are recognized by a college you enter to further your education. The ability to transfer your credits and to have other educational institutions recognize them is a part of "accreditation." Regional and national associations set standards to be achieved and grant accreditation to schools. Moreover, separate professions like nursing and business are additionally accredited by their professional associations.

In this region, the accrediting body is called the North central Association. Its staff oversees universities, colleges, professional schools, high schools, and keep track of those institutions' compliance with rules and regulations. Schools must apply for accreditation. Compliance with accreditation for the College of the Muscogee Nation involves a complex

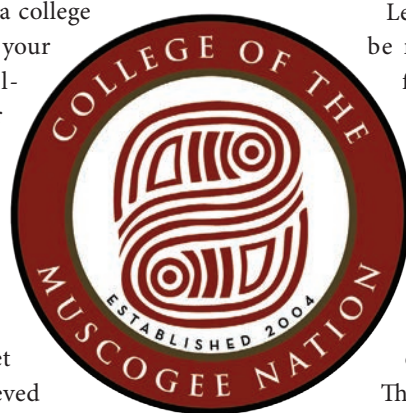
process that engages a wide range of personnel representing many levels of higher education. Several stages are followed along the path to full accreditation.

Lengthy criteria must be met to obtain official accreditation.

Among the requirements for a college are a governing body that meets regularly in part to ensure that the school has overall guidance.

The school must also have an academia or educational program of study aiming toward a diploma or degree with publications such as a catalogue that informs its readers of the steps to be taken to gain a diploma. The institution must also have in place some form of measurements of student learning.

There will likely be a service learning portion to the training. The school must also have long-range planning in which most segments of the school participate in some form. There are many more aspects of accreditation because it is a complicated process.



JOM NEWS

JOM Scholarship Time

OKMULGEE —The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Johnson O'Malley program is proud to announce once again it is time for the JOM Scholarship Awards. The scholarships are opened for qualifying JOM senior students within the Muscogee Creek Nation JOM service area.

JOM will be awarding 16 scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 each. There are no income guidelines and all JOM senior students are welcomed to apply. The JOM office will be receiving applications until the April 20, 2007, 5:00 p.m. deadline and notifications will be made the first week in May.

The JOM program is happy to support our JOM students in their educational endeavors each year as we try to provide an avenue of financial support.

We hope you will encourage your senior students to apply for this scholarship. Applications are available through the local school JOM Coordinator or on the Muscogee Nation website. Questions should be directed to our office at 918-732-7843 or 918-732-7839.

JOM Career Day

OKMULGEE — JOM will be hosting Career Day for 7th and 8th grade students from all 5 counties. The event will take place on March 6th from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Covelle Hall located at on the OSU-Okmulgee campus. There are to be over 500 students and 25 presenters from all over, the FBI, Military, Life Flight, and from our own Muscogee (Creek) Nation Departments.

For more information contact David Gash at (918) 732-7841.

Choctaw Coliseum will hold Youth Summit

"Xtreme Knowledge is Power", a 2007 Youth Summit, will be held at Choctaw Coliseum in Durant, Oklahoma on Tuesday, June 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Summit, designed to be an educational and motivational fun filled experience, will help youth ages 14-21 prepare for the employment challenges of the future. This event will feature live entertainment and motivational speakers including team Thunder, a dragster demonstration emphasizing the importance of math and science; John Harrintow a former astronaut, and Shannon Miller, Olympic Gold Medal Gymnast, with Thunder X, a cross-country motorcycle stunt show.

You don't want to miss all the high energy, the "XTREME POWER" that will fill the Choctaw Coliseum from Olympic Gold Winners, to a Dare Devil Dragster and High Jumping, Flip Turning

Motorcyclists, to a MAN who's been to the MOON and back.

All registered youth will receive an "Xtreme Knowledge is Power" travel/gym bag and a sack lunch. This event is being hosted by:

Choctaw Nation, Creek Nation, Chickasaw Nation Citizen Pottawatomie Nation Keddo, Department of Reliability, Big Five Community Action Center, State Department of Career Tech, Southern Workforce Investment Board, Southeastern Workforce investment Board, Governor's State Youth Council. Corporate sponsors and donations to help make this event a success will be greatly appreciated.

For more information or to donate time or resources, please contact Patty Mink, Choctaw Nation (580) 924-8280 ext. 2209 or Darla Thomas, Big Five, (580) 924-8280.

Attention Female High School Students Interested in Math and Science

The CURIE Academy is a one-week summer residential program for high school girls who excel in math and science, enjoy solving problems, and want to learn more about careers in engineering. Cornell University's world-renowned faculty and graduate students lead academy participants in classes, lab sessions, and project research. Participants work in teams to solve problems that mirror real-life situations. In addition, social events, panel discussions, and other out-of-classroom activities provide participants with opportunities to network informally with each other and Cornell faculty, staff, and students.

Primary goals of this program include:

Exposing girls to the exciting opportunities existing for them in engineering

Helping girls understand that women belong and are needed in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields BR>> Demonstrating the connections between the study of engineering and solving problems affecting people and society

Please share the enclosed information with current sophomore and junior girls who have an interest in STEM fields. We also encourage you to share this in-

formation with science and math teachers so they may distribute it to their students. You will find all program materials including the application online at <http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/curie>.

Applications from girls who belong to groups severely underrepresented in engineering-African Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanics/Latinas are encouraged. Eligibility and application requirements may be found at <http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/curie>. The application must be postmarked by April 16, 2007. If you have questions about the program, please contact us at cj38@cornell.edu or (607)255-0735

Deadlines for February Scholarships

Feb. 28 application deadline for the CBS News Internship Program*, an opportunity to work for the network news division while learning from experienced journalism professionals. Applicants must be attending an accredited college on a full-time basis; entering junior or senior year; majoring in journalism, mass communications, international studies, English or public relations. FMI: Katie Curcio (ph) 212) 975.2114. (e) cc5@cbsnews.com.

Feb. 28 application due for National Urban/Rural Fellowship*, a 14 month program designed for mid-career minorities comprised two summers of coursework and a 9-month mentorship with a Senior administrator in a government agency, major nonprofit, or foundation – placements are nationwide. Program leads to a Masters degree in Public Administration from Baruch College, School of Public Affairs, City University of New York. Applicants must have a bachelors degree, 3-5 years administrative/managerial experience, high integrity and work ethic, commitment to public service. \$25,000 stipend, tuition, book, travel, moving expenses. FMI: Abigail Torres (ph) 212.730.1700. (e) abbytorres@nuf.org (url) www.nuf.org/nufprogram.asp.

Feb. 28 application deadline for the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center's Department of Pharmacology's Minority Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program* (May 29 – Aug 3) for undergraduate students from an underrepresented group (first generation college students, economically disadvantaged, or ethnic identity) who are interested in a science career with a minimum GPA of 2.9 and science GPA of 3.0. Program consists of a Research Project in one of several laboratories of the Dept. of Pharmacology. Students attend weekly seminars and present their research results at the end of the program. \$2,500 stipend for 10 weeks of research. FMI: Melissa Adams (ph) (303) 724.3286 (e) melissa.adams@uchsc.edu

Feb 26 application due for the Four Directions Summer Research Program* (June 17-August 10), Harvard Medical School, for undergraduate or graduate students with demonstrated commitment to the health of Native communities, motivation to achieve goals, and an interest in pursuing a career in health/medical sciences. Includes airfare, transportation, lodging, \$2,500 stipend. FMI and application: (ph) (617)

432.4422. (e) info@fidsrp.org (url) www.fidsrp.org

Feb 28 application deadline for the National Institute of Health's Undergraduate Scholarship Program for students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are committed to careers in biomedical, behavioral and social science health-related research. Requirements include: GPA of 3.5 (or be within the top 5 percent of your class), and enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time student for the 2007-2008 academic year at an accredited, 4-yr. undergraduate institution. The scholarships pay for tuition and reasonable educational and living expenses up to \$20,000 per academic year. After each year of the scholarship, each student is required to work for 10 weeks in the summer as a paid employee in an NIH research laboratory. After graduation, recipients are required to serve as full-time employees in an NIH research laboratory for 1 year of full-time employment for each year of the scholarship (students may defer service obligations for appropriate graduate or medical studies). NIH expects to award 15 scholarships for 2007. FMI: NIH (ph) 1.888.352.3001. (e) UGSP@NIH.GOV (url) <http://www.ugsp.nih.gov/>

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department
1808 North Miami Okmulgee, OK. 74447 (918) 732-7639 Office (918) 758-0824 Fax

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FEATURES

STATE OF THE NATION - B2



LIFESTYLES- B4

Creek girl participates in Pre-Teen America Pageant



QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT - B6



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

February 2007

Native American History Series: Statehood Comments

by Judge Patrick E. Moore

During the years leading up to Oklahoma statehood there were differing opinions as to the meanings contained in the various treaties with the Five Civilized Tribes. Each and every treaty contained language stating, "The United States hereby, solemnly agree and bind themselves, that no State or Territory shall ever pass laws for the government of the Creek tribe of Indians, and no portion of the tracts of country defined in this agreement shall ever be embraced or included within, or annexed to, any Territory or State, nor shall any part ever be erected into a Territory without the full and free consent of the legislative authority of the Creek tribe."



David A. Harvey, Oklahoma Territory's first delegate to the United States Congress, introduced a joint Statehood Bill into Congress. Harvey's Bill would join Oklahoma Territory with Indian Territory and was a clear violation of the Treaty between the United States and the Creek Nation. However, Mr. Harvey was never one to let the Constitution, law or something as meaningless as a Treaty stand in the way of his desire to provide land for people in Kansas. He had cut his legal teeth as City Attorney and Probate Judge in Topeka Kansas, where he worked for the forced removal of Indians from rich reservation land in Kansas, that was wanted by wealthy Kansas wheat farmers. He was instrumental in seeing that the Congress passed laws requiring Indians native

to Kansas be removed to Indian Territory land and settled on land owned by the Five Civilized Tribes. He was also personally and financially interested in the opening of lands across the Kansas border in Indian Territory for white settlement.

On the floor of the United States Congress the most effective argument against Harvey's Joint Statehood Bill was the inclusion in existing ratified Treaties of language that prohibited the inclusion of Five Civilized Tribes Indian land within a state without the consent of the Indians. Harvey argued the Indians had not enforced those provisions because there were whites living all over Indian Territory, but he ignored the fact that each and every Treaty also contained the following language, "All persons who are not members of the Creek Tribe shall be considered intruders and shall be removed and kept out of the Creek Nation by the United States." Harvey also argued that there was too much lawlessness in Indian Territory and the only way to eliminate the criminal element was for there to be another government installed with its superior court and law enforcement system.

Roley McIntosh, a full blood Creek, presented his attitude toward Statehood before the Congress at the same time. Speaking before the House Committee on Territories he commented about the previous speakers, "Many of them seem to be lawyers, but I am not a trained lawyer, so you will not hear any hairsplitting arguments with respect to

the Treaty language against including Indian land within a state. I am only an old Indian and I only know one way; when you make a contract with me, I expect you to stand by it."

Addressing Harvey's comments on lawlessness, McIntosh said, "The lawbreakers are the intruders that the United States had agreed to keep out of the Territory." McIntosh continued, "We have your deputy marshals all over our country—United States deputy marshals. We see them every day and they are in all the little towns of the Creek Nation. We also have officers appointed by the Interior Department, who are known as Indian police. There are so many of these United States deputy marshals and Indian Police there under appointment from the government of the United States, that they hardly have enough criminals to catch. Sometimes these deputy marshals have trouble among themselves. One will say, "I have a writ for that fellow and you have gone and caught him."

The Creek Nation did not have a jail and did not need a jail because the Creek citizen who violated a law of the Creek Nation was corporally or physically punished, whipping in public being the preferred form of this punishment. Corporal punishment was administered within minutes of a Creek Judge's or jury's finding of guilt, often administered outside in front of the courthouse in the public street. Those Creeks punished in this manner seldom, if ever, committed another violation of Creek law.

Only the non Creek treaty violating criminal intruder required the European's favorite form of punishment, incarceration.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE — Tonight is cold in Oklahoma, colder than usual, and my Oklahoma winter memories go way back. Since I arrived here yesterday morning from Honolulu I've heard many stories of the big storm of snow, ice and cold. I've heard of ice several inches thick and solid. Of a week of days missed at work, of spectacular wrecks and close calls. Without question, the weather patterns are changing: snow in Malibu, saguaros crusted with ice in Tucson, and a record-breaking 56 degrees in Hilo, Hawaii a few nights ago.



Harjo

We know we're in a shift of meaning; we're not sure of where it's taking us; how's not sure of where it's taking us. I suspect that uncertainty is tied to the prodigious amounts of drugs taken by the population. Most are prescription drugs given for depression, for inability to sleep, or wake up. And then drugs are given to counteract the effects and side effects of those. And then drugs are given to counter what happens when you mix the drug with the antidote. What happened to: how are you feeling? And where does it hurt? How's it going at home? How are your children? What can we do about it? The manifestation of disease or pain isn't always physical. It can take awhile for trauma to settle into the bones, muscles, nerves, organs, or the consciousness.

This is year of the Oklahoma Centennial. Oklahoma, the 46th state in the United States is celebrating one hundred years of statehood. The state's motto is the "Sooner State" has always confounded me. Why elevate the Sooners who were those who crossed over the line illegally to stake land claims in one of the largest organized (illegal) land takeovers?

Consider this, Oklahoma: a takeover of Oklahoma as you know and love it, the Oklahoma you have created with all of its malls, institutions, churches, schools and houses, by a society of people who believe you don't really live here because you don't embody their idea of human, your institutions aren't like theirs, or you aren't really using the land in the manner in which they would use it. They have an edict by their God who tells them that they are a righteous people. These lands are theirs by birthright. You don't matter. They have firepower and numbers of them pour in to take whatever resources are there in your beloved lands. And because they can takeover they believe that this is proof they are right. And you who are here aren't really here, unless you conform to their ways, recreate yourselves in the new mind, within the new system of belief they have instituted over yours. And now they want you to celebrate with them the creation of this state of being, even as they have essentially erased you from their history, their land, their civilization.

I believe that most people are good people. Light shines through human mistakes. Those who took over the land, and their descendants who continue the takeover attitude and still believe they are right are young in their souls and misguided. I believe most would do better if they knew better. Some would not and will not. The Oklahoma story is the story of colonization throughout the whole world, and it's still going on, even in Iraq. At the core is disrespect for others: humans, plants, animals, minerals, earth, ocean, and sky. Or the belief that these are things to be used for the benefit of one group of humans. So how does Indian Oklahoma recover such an assault of the spirit? We can fight, but we will lose. Fighting will destroy us. We can give up, or despair. Indian America has one of the highest suicide, alcohol,

diabetes, and other social ill rates. We cannot ask the implanted society to give us our dignity, our rights, our sovereignty. We must turn within, towards that which has always sustained us, vnvketky, our roots, ways, which are characterized by respect.

We must create and nurture our own Mvskoke State of Mind.

When I had the band, Poetic Justice, Willie Johnson, from Isleta Pueblo was my right-hand guitar player. His day job was as a judge at another pueblo. The job was frustrating because he dealt directly with the fallout from grief, anger, self-hatred, and depression

in the cases that came through his court. His hair had begun to turn white. One day he lost it, he said. He demanded that the whole tribe be brought in for counseling, together! (He eventually quit that job, and his hair stopped turning white.) Maybe we need to start there.

Why not use this centennial as a wake up call, to take hold of our beloved nation and remember who we really are in this time and place. We must take the lead in how we will re-imagine ourselves. We can find everything we need to stabilize ourselves within our culture, our language. Within that security and growth, we can then synthesize and grow. Cultures resemble bio systems. We need a flow in and out for a healthy and live system. Navajo rugs came out of taking what was useful from the Spanish and Pueblos and making something that has become quintessentially Navajo. Our Mvskoke music is at the root of the American musics of jazz, blues and rock, and we don't even know it. We need to claim our place. No one else is going to give it to us. Right now we appear stuck between what the "over-culture" has demanded of us, our acquiescence to a system of belief that doesn't honor us, and our own culture and knowledge that we are holding on so tight to keep safe, that as those carriers die we are losing everything. It won't be easy. We have to take a look at everything at the most intimate level. Does what we are thinking, eating, doing, being sustain or celebrate who we are? Do our dreams, thoughts and deeds honor us?

Earlier this month I began two classes from a native Hawaiian organization Native Nations Foundation: an ukulele class in which we learn songs in Hawaiian, and a Hawaiian chant class taught by master chanter and cultural leader, Keali'i Gora. As I learn I can't help but think about our Mvskoke language and culture. In these classes we learn songs and song forms; some are of a distinct cultural synthesis. The ukulele came from Portugal, brought in by Portuguese immigrants. Now it's become essentially Hawaiian. The chants are haunting and beautiful song-poems in Hawaiian that hold within them culture and spirit. They are used for protocol and honor and dignify everyone wherever they are used. They were nearly extinct a few years ago, even outlawed by the over takers, until the people made a decision to recover them. There are other classes in hula kahiko (the old style hula, not the tourist style) and other cultural forms. The children are being grounded in these forms, and even the kapuna, or elderly are learning. Keali'i pointed out in class that he is amazed at the number of kapuna who are learning the forms, after they were turned from them in younger years, and are now traveling around the Pacific performing. We Mvskoke have our own forms that would be honored if we used them, revived them. Let's start here.

There are more snowstorms coming. Use this weather to gather together the materials we need to grow our nation.

Re-Enactors gather for the Alabama Frontier Days

by Sandra Harley

WETUMPKA, AL — Re-enactors gathered for the "Alabama Frontier Days" held on November 1-4, at the Fort Toulouse/Fort Jackson park.

This is the most authentic 1700-1830's living history encampment, which has the French and American Forts, alongside the Creek village and hunting camps.

They are located along the Coosa River which is near the old OCE'VPOFV. 13,000 school children plus visitors

worldwide visited

the Frontier Days.

The re-enactors

demonstrated

flintknapping,

hide tanning,

shooting bows

and arrows, blow-

guns, firing of the

muskets, cook-

ing, storytelling

and performing

the 1700's stomp-

dancing.

For a de-

cade, the re-en-

actors have trav-

eled to Georgia, Tennessee, all over Alabama, Louisiana and performing in Oklahoma.

Muscogee Creek citizens Jimmy Sanders, Jay McGirt, Billie Scott, Lee Scott, Sandra and Speedy Harley of Okmulgee, are getting ready for their next re-enactment. They will be re-enacting at Horse Shoe Bend in Davison, AL., located on the Tallapoosa River near New Yaucau (Nuyaka) Village site.



Re-enactors at the "Alabama Frontier Days" L to R: Prof. Walter Gowan, Sandra and Speedy Harley, Elishia BAlentine (Al. Forrester Comm.), Jimmy Sanders, Kelly Taylor, Billie L. Scott, Lee Scott, Noel Grayson, Ricky and Ginger Jones, and Prof. David Hobbs.

Fort Toulouse/ Fort Jackson

In 1717, when this region was part of French Louisiana, the French built a fort near the strategically vital junction where the Tallapoosa and Coosa Rivers form the Alabama River. The fort was primarily a trading post where Indians exchanged furs for guns and household items. There were no battles at the post as French diplomacy forged allies with the natives. The surrounding Indians, commonly referred to as Creeks, wanted peace so they could trade with both the French and British.

The wall of the fort facing the Coosa River washed away in 1747 and a second fort was built in 1751 using a palisade of pointed logs. The French lost the French and Indian War and the fort in 1763. The site was abandoned by the French and the lands reverted to native occupation.

Few vestiges of the French post were visible when a new large earthen fort was erected in 1814 and named in honor of General Andrew Jackson. The Treaty of Fort Jackson, signed here that year, marked the formal end of the bitter Creek war phase of the War of 1812. Today visitors can see an A.D. 1100 Mississippian Indian mound, a recreation of the 1751 French Fort Toulouse, and the partially restored 1814 American Fort Jackson.

CulturalActivities

Annual Native Justice Pow Wow

TULSA — The University of Tulsa Native American Law Student Association and the University of Tulsa Native American Law Center will be hosting their Second Annual Native Justice Pow Wow on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2007 at the Mabee Gym located at East 8th St and the Florence Ave.

The Pow Wow will be honoring tribal lawyers, judges, law enforcement officers, court clerks, law students and educators, and all those who protect and enforce our laws. The year's Pow Wow Honoree is Judge Patrick E. Moore, District Court Judge for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The following is a list of schedule

of events: 2 p.m., Gourd Dancing; 5 p.m., supper break; 6 p.m., Gourd Dancing; and 7 p.m., Grand Entry and War Dance Program.

For more information visit their website at: <http://www.law.utulsa.edu/indianlaw/nalsa/powwow>.

Fifth Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair

NORMAN — The Fifth Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Lan-

guage Fair will be held April 5-6, 2007 at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma.

The statewide competition draws more than 350 participants, including many Muscogee students (several who won awards), who compete in as many as 18 different Native American languages. Categories include: spoken presentation; language with song/dance; film/video; bookmaking; essay; and poster art.

The serves to promote, encourage, and showcase native youth using tribal languages.

STATE OF THE NATION

January 27

I was provided a fact sheet. I asked all departments for some statistics. I was given bushels of information. I may not be able to cover it all. There is so much to cover in all departments and all are important and vital to operation of this Nation. Did you know the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is the 4th largest tribe in America? Our population as of yesterday is 62,643 citizens.

EMPLOYMENT

We employ approximately 2,600 employees, for most the average pay is approximately \$24,000 per year. One of the things we are proud of occurred on October 2006. We raised the minimum wage of Creek Nation to \$7.67 per hour. By the end of year we hope to raise that up to \$10 per hour. This will help our lower paid employees. We had some employees that work forty hours and have to pull around to the to commodity warehouse to make ends meet. This was something that was not acceptable. We should not have to rely on public assistance.

Our annual payroll this past year was approximately \$20 million. We spent \$6 million for education. Last year the Indian Reservation Road Program paved 29.8 miles at a cost of approximately \$6.4 million. We will pave 39.3 miles this year, whatever the costs may be.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

We have spent \$700,280 on fire and emergency trucks. While we are talking about emergencies I want to compliment our Emergency Risk Management department for their efforts during the recent ice storm. I was down here this weekend, along with Phil Booker and James Nichols of Risk Management and our Lighthorse Police, helping transport our elders to warm places and shelters during the ice storms that hit hard in McIntosh and Muscogee counties. The areas most affected were Eufaula, Checotah, Muscogee and surrounding townships and communities. The National Council declared a state of emergency and appropriated \$400,000 for a new emergency management program.

CASINO REVENUES

Revenues from the three major casinos was over \$62 million last year with a 17% increase over 2005. Our permanent fund totaled \$89 million at the end of '05. As of today we have a total of \$111,500 million 20/40 revenue monthly deposited: \$10 million in economic develop and land acquisition; \$3 million for capitol improvements; \$3 million to pay off debts; and \$30 million deposited into general fund for our client services. The Executive Administration has expended \$30 million in client direct services.

COWETA CLINIC

In May 2006, the clinic was dedicated at the cost of \$18 million. The clinic was completed last summer. Former Chief R. Perry Beaver initiated this beautiful clinic. When we started construction I formed an Oversight committee, which included Executive Director Claude Sumner and Controller James Pratt and a number of tribal leaders. Mr. Sumner had made hundreds of trips to Coweta since the ground breaking to monitor the progress. I've seen him go over there and make them pull up about a half acre of Bermuda grass that was not placed properly. This committee made this project possible under budget and before deadline.

TULSA CASINO RENOVATION

Tulsa Casino renovation cost is \$5 million. The new casino is under construction for a 289,000 sq. ft. facility. It was first announced by former Chief Beaver in late 2003. It will be completed in May 2008. It has been a 5-year span, and it started as a 20-month project. We've got to move our businesses and

Economic Development faster ahead in this nation. I look at our fellow tribes that have moved ahead. One way we are going to this is to get the politics out of our business. We need to come up with plan to do just that. The Tulsa casino is going to cost us a total of \$110 million; there is talk of hotel and parkade. The position of this administration is to finish the casino and create a stream of revenue and put the hotel in the second phase. If we put a hotel in now it would put us in to debt in the amount of \$232 million. I can't in good faith subject or put this nation into a \$232 million debt at one time. Included in this financing of a \$110 million casino are provisions for a \$17 million health clinic at Eufaula that is very badly need. The clinic will be similar to the Coweta clinic. The financing should be finalized this spring. We already have the land/ground and the architect plans. I have planned a fast track project for that area of our nation.

HOUSING DIVISION

I'll share a story with you why I'm standing here. I lost my job in about 1988 while living in my family's old home place and my birthplace. It was run down, the roof was falling in so I came to the tribe. I needed some help. I got the run around from the Housing Director and Deputy Director, they wouldn't talk to me. I applied for assistance, I waited three years and still nothing. It was then I decided I was going to run for council and that's how I ended up where I am now. Housing issues have been my project since my council position. There are layers of bureaucracy. The Housing was under the state of the Oklahoma, My first year of office I went to the capitol to lobby. The first and second years ended in failure. Finally, Senator Frank Shurden agreed to sponsor the Bill, along with Lisa Billy, a Chickasaw, and they took it to the Senate. By unanimous vote, we took control. We accepted \$43 million is assets that we now have control of. That's an exercise of Sovereignty. In 2006, we built 110 ten new homes for our people. We have rehabbed 227 homes. We assisted 69 tribal citizens with the Mortgage Assistance program. For those that do not want to wait on the waiting list they can locate and buy a home.

In my first State of the Nation four years ago, I read a letter from a 11-year old boy about their family home. He wrote "I can't bring anyone over because we have no bathroom. We can't come home on weekends and play. The snow blows in our house. We have no plumbing. I'm ashamed of my house."

I'll read you another letter from this same family I received about four weeks ago.

"Mr. Ellis, I still have the note you left me when you came to see my house and me. I would also like to thank Della Cherry who came and took pictures; one does what they have to do to live. At tax time I would do what I could. I believe that I kept Wal-Mart and Lowe's in business by buying window coverings. This is the first time I do not have to worry about the temperatures ahead in the weeks to come and don't have to move in with my sister across town. I would worry about the water lines breaking under the house and have to turn off the water at the meter before leaving during winter weather. There were many things that I would have to do before leaving for my sisters house. My beautiful home is my castle and when the wind blows outside I don't have to worry about the windows or doors. May God be with you, Martha Long & Family,"

Chief Ellis asked Martha Long to stand. (standing ovation) There is a story behind every new house we give. There is a story behind all the rehabs. There is hope as well. That is what all our elected people are here for, to take care of people that need help.



Also within our plans for the housing division, we are going to build a manufacturing plant south of I-40 on Hwy 9 in Hughes County. A large amount of cash that we were able to acquire from the transition from state control will enable us to move forward with this plan. We have a market for 700 before we even start. This is what the funds will be used for. We also have purchased the old Wetumka hospital and we will have Creek Nation Satellite offices on site. We've also contacted Davita Dialysis. Great things are happening at the Housing Division.

TOBACCO COMPACT

We are currently one of two tribes that do not have a compact now we are buying all our tobacco from other tribes. I'm sure the other tribes don't care about our tobacco compact, because they are making a fortune off of us.

Creek Nation Tax Commissioners and I met with Governor Henry two weeks ago and he has presented us with the latest proposal. He said "he has gone all he can go, I do not want to get in trouble with Legislators" Ellis stated he will bring it back to council. I've called an extraordinary session with National Council for Tuesday.

CN Tax Commission Tobacco sales \$1.6 million increase an additional \$5 million by Our Creek Nation Motor vehicle has registered over 17,000 vehicles.

VETERANS DEPARTMENT

The Veterans Department was established two years ago with Veteran Marine Ken Davis as Veterans Affairs Coordinator. Since it's inception the Veterans Service Department under the guidance of Mr. Davis has assisted 43 veterans receive their disability. There are 43 of our Muscogee Veterans receiving 100% disability. One was Stanley Roberts, who was a veteran of the Korean War and a man that worked until he was old making a living. VASO got him 100% disability, but the sad part is Stanley drew only one check before he passed away. Many other older veteran are now receiving money due to them. The new construction on the north side of the complex is for the new Veterans building and it will be in the shape of the Pentagon. Mr. Davis calls it the "Pentagon of the West" Along with his Marines, each branch of the military will be represented in five wings. In front of the building will be two life-size bronze statues. One will be a WWII soldier, the other an 1812 Creek Warrior.

REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

The council has funded this program to be able to go to prisons and talk to our citizens that are about to be released. We not only talk to Creeks, we talk to all tribes incarcerated. No other tribe has this type of program. When they get out they are given a place to live, some start up with money and possibly a job if we can place them. If we didn't, a lot of them would wind up back in prison again. These are forgotten people and right now, we the Creeks are taking care of them.

LIGHTHORSE

Lighthorse are always around when you need them, and they assisted during the ice disaster in a great way, even though conditions were dangerous for them as well. Officer Tammy Checotah was the first female officer to attend C.L.E.E.T. and we're proud to say is the first certified Lighthorse Policewoman.

COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION

I signed the original charter establishing the college on July 19 2006. Their new home is the old Social Security building where the administrative

offices are maintained now. There are a total of 18 classes offered now, with an enrollment of 88 students. They started a gaming course that is OSHA Gaming approved by the OSU Board of Regents and will be finalized next month. Several new associates degrees are being developed for inclusion in the curriculum. And as of four days ago we have a new college President, Dr. Pete Coser.

HEAD START PROGRAM

The beautiful new building that you see in full operation today opened up last spring with Congressman Dan Boren in attendance. Pat Wind, Director of the Head Start Program, has confirmed a total enrollment of 288 Creek citizens nationwide, 160 here at the complex and a growing waiting list. 12 staff members are working toward a BA in Early Childhood Development through Bacone College. Pat Wind and myself met with Kaiser Foundation in Oklahoma City and they want to partner with our early childhood program. We are the first tribe they have approached to partner with and we look forward to working together.

EUFULA DORMITORY

The Eufaula Dormitory has six (6) seniors graduating this year. One Junior student will be attending a national leadership school in Washington, D.C. This is great news from our Creek Indian students. Greg Anderson has received \$430,000 to date in grants towards the Eufaula Dormitory students.

Our Muscogee Language Program, headed by Norman Marshall, currently has a pilot program in Dustin, Hanna, Wetumka and Holdenville. Now we are trying to implement the Creek curriculum and get it approved by the State of Oklahoma.

Our Higher Education Department is currently assisting 1,457 students in their Higher Education pursuits at a cost of \$1.6 million in scholarships.

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

We have put into action a global tracking system which locates lost Indian cemeteries.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Janice Hanun, who heads the department, is currently over 15 different programs. One is our new Social Security program.

While visiting California we visited a small tribe out there. Their headquarters were on the 34th floor, the top floor of a skyscraper. With their 300 members they had their own TANF program. A Southern California tribe and the Osage Nation were the only ones with his type of program.

We're also very proud of our food distribution program. Our commodity warehouse currently serves 2,700 people monthly

JOHNSON O'MALLEY

JOM (Johnson O'Malley) serves 15,000 creek students in public schools throughout Creek Nation. Virginia Thomas, JOM Manager, and her assistant Jerri Brandon have done an excellent job. Not only is Virginia Thomas the Creek Nation JOM Manager, but she also serves as the National President and Jerri Brandon is the National Treasurer. So we have two Creek people on the national level to be proud of. I am very familiar with JOM. Every year I have to lobby in Washington, D.C. along with these ladies. Every year President Bush writes JOM out of the program. We receive the 1995 level, there have no increases in eleven years.

TRIBAL AFFAIRS

Under the direction of Allen Harjo, this branch covers many programs such as the Road Program, Realty Department and the Creek Nation farm. The city of Okmulgee and the Department of Tourism wanted to make the Okmulgee depot a tourist attraction. Mr. Harjo did some research on the depot and discovered that the Creek Nation owned the property. With the treaties honored, the land was returned to the Creeks. For example out here on Hwy 75 runs a quarter mile into Creek Nation, they never received permission

to use it. A lot of the railroads that run throughout Creek Nation are owned by Creeks. Many other places cross over Creek land, for instance in Tulsa I-44 crosses over Creek land. We met with the Department of Transportation in OKC. We asked to extend our parking lot out to Hwy 75. They said "you can do anything you want to do, just let us know". We kind of have them over a barrel now. As it is now a lot of the railroads in the Muskogee area are positioned so that the tracks cross over many people's property. It may cross over Jerry Shumake's property over in Muskogee. We are working on that now.

TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Tribal Transportation Authority is another new building that has went up this last year. Buses and vans run routes whether it be an emergency out there or a doctor appointment We can take them to their appointment Ben Chaney, the director of Tribal Transportation, is currently negotiating the purchase of a new 57 passenger highway coach with a bathroom, overhead luggage and we will have it within thirty days. The coach will come equipped with video capabilities and will be very comfortable for people to travel will now be no cost to the tribe because of tribal roads program.

FUTURE PLANS

In 2007 the Muscogee Nation has big plans. These projects are what are in our future. We have planned construction or are currently under construction on the projects that I mention. Tulsa Casino will continue all year and be completed in May 2008. The new Eufaula casino will start this year. I signed the contract to proceed with our new Industrial Park north of the complex. We have an infrastructure, sewer lines and there are plans for retail shops to be included. We will have a strip mall facing Hwy 75. Next week bids will go out for the Multi-Purpose center that will hold 2,500 people or 1,800 for ball games. It will be the largest in this area and something this nation can be awfully proud of for many years. It will include a fitness center, basketball gym and on the top floor will be a jogging track. It will be finished this year. I've been told not to put finishing dates on anything, but I'm going to say it will be complete this year. We started construction on our new Elderly Nutrition Centers for Wetumka, Weleetka, Kellyville and Eufaula communities. New Community centers for Kellyville and Okmulgee is building a new Community Center down by the old Oakdale site south of town with a convenience store, travel center and community center. Holdenville casino will be under construction in the next few months. Wetumka hospital will be refurbished. Wetumka manufacturing plant will start this year. We all promised people that are south of I-40 that we would be doing something for them. This is my sixteenth year, I hate to think that it took 16 years to do this, but we are finally doing it.

OPEN HOUSE

The Open House for the brand new Attorney General office building will be coming soon. The Veteran's building construction is continuing. Construction starts for the Lighthorse building set to start going up in a couple of months. Currently we are pursuing grants for our rodeo arena and expand it to hold 6,000 people. Other projects that will have high priority will be the new Headstart in Okemah, finishing the Duck Creek Casino, Okemah Casino and Eufaula casino.

UNITY

Last but not least, this year we need strive to bring our tribal government together and we need to unite the three branches of government to work together. We need to do this in order to serve our people in a better way. We all know that we disagree sometimes but when it comes down to programs we need to focus on the things that we can do together that will affect our citizens in a positive way. We need to put personal differences aside and come together to do what is best for this nation.

Myto!

Tabernacle at Falls Creek Baptist under Construction

DAVIS—Indian Falls Creek 2007 is scheduled for July 30 - August 3, please make every effort to attend. If assistance is needed please contact me Victor Cope Executive Director at 405-598-8720 or at ndnrev@aol.com

To view the construction of the new tabernacle at Falls Creek go to website: www.fallscreekOK.org. Continue to pray for resources, the workers and the completion of the new tabernacle.

The Vision

Several factors dictate that the time has come to facilitate a crucial expansion and renovation of Falls Creek Baptist Conference Center.

Growth

The dramatic increase in the attendance and frequency of groups utilizing Falls Creek demands that resources be expanded to handle the numerical growth alone. But there is also the growth in scope of ministry that demands attention. There is an unprecedented growth in the diversification of our society. New special focus groups are being identified every day and existing groups are increasing exponentially. Senior adults, single adults, language groups, learning disabled, physically challenged, blended families, single parent families....these and more not only cry for our attention, but they also demand that churches create new ministries they will face in the 21st Century.

Stewardship

For the better part of a century Falls Creek has been among the most productive members of the Oklahoma Baptist family of ministries. What it has produced in the lives of individuals, churches, and missions world wide is truly immeasurable. However, Falls Creek Baptist Conference Center in and of itself has become an asset of value

fiscally as well as spiritually.

Through the years, despite no sizeable campaigns, Oklahoma Baptist churches have individually and collectively amassed Falls Creek properties whose financial worth demands that we be good stewards. Not only is the gen-

money renting commercial facilities or driving thousands of miles to retreat centers for training and fellowship. Falls Creek Baptist Conference Center has the potential to make us better stewards of the Lord's money. With a facility of this magnitude available to

while we enjoy the "rustic beauty" of the Falls Creek landscape, we must improve the rustic nature of its technology. The technological needs of Falls Creek span the range from comfort to effectiveness to safety.

As for comfort, the technology

equipment and facilities, and technical advancement of support services must grow with the conference center.

Spiritual Impact

All of the growth, stewardship, technology, and buildings are simply a means to an end. The true call of God for Falls Creek is to reach people. History will validate not only that millions can and will be touched, but it also confirms that with each decade there is a new generation being called by God. Falls Creek is a wonderful retreat that separates us from the day to day trials of the world, resulting in a conspicuously Christian lifestyle when we return to our daily walks. Dr. John Bisagno, retired pastor of the First Baptist Church of Houston, stated, "As the world's largest youth assembly, Falls Creek is arguably the single most influential force for good among American youth in the world. Only when human character is

transformed does society change. Give us a hundred Falls Creeks and give us a new America! Time is running out for America. Don't let it run out for Falls Creek."

For the sake of a "new America" in the 21st Century, we must ensure that Falls Creek Baptist Conference Center not only exists, but flourishes for another generation and beyond.

For ways to help donate to the Church. You can now Provide-A-Stone at Falls Creek. You can inscribe a stone around the new tabernacle in honor or in memory of a person, family, church or organization. You may simply desire to recognize a special date or event.

For more information about the campaign and how you can contribute, please call (800) 690-6933, or visit our website www.fallscreek.org.



eral upkeep of buildings and grounds at issue, but there is the issue of support services like sanitation, water and sewage, roads and all of the other amenities that a "small city" would require. Because of the aforementioned growth, Falls Creek has even seen the need for advanced planning for growth not unlike a city would conduct to bring about wise uniformity and maximum usage of space. Protection of an asset this valuable is a matter of good stewardship.

But the concept of good stewardship at Falls Creek causes ripples far beyond the gates of the encampment. In a day and age when churches, especially small to medium sized churches, are scrambling for resources and our state convention is doing all it can to partner with North American and International Mission Board projects, it does not make sense for us to spend

our denomination and state, should it not be readily usable year round and effectively equipped to meet the "university of methods" that "every line of denominational interest" requires? For the sake of good stewardship, we must act now.

Technology

With the incredible technological advancements of recent years, one can only imagine what amazing tools for communicating the Gospel await us in the 21st Century. Within the past decade Falls Creek has greatly enhanced the effectiveness of its worship services through the use of technology. However, there is a limit to how much 21st Century technology can be accommodated in a building designed in the 1920's. Technology has become such an important part of our lives that people have come to expect it's presence and,

which would facilitate year round usage of all major conference facilities would greatly enhance both the frequency of usage and the comfort of those who attend. The most prominent building on the grounds, the open air tabernacle, has obvious limitations from both a climate control and audio-visual standpoint. An enclosed facility with heat and air not only makes it a year round facility, but a much more comfortable facility. Audio visual technology not only makes the worship/teaching experience more enjoyable and effective, but it also makes the experience available to the hearing and visually impaired.

Technology is not only needed in the tabernacle and in the teaching environment, but also in customer service and other facility needs. Communications within the camp, emergency

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

CONCHARTY UNITED

TWIN HILLS—Concharty United Methodist Church will be hosting a All-You-Can-Eat Wild Onion Dinner on March 24 at 11 a.m..

For more information about the dinner call (918) 366-8450.

GRAVE CREEK

OKMULGEE—Grave Creek Church will be having a Fund-raiser on February 17 at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. With a Indian Taco sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call in orders and delivery are welcome. To order or for more information please call (918) 752-0980 or (918) 752-5120.

The OICC is located at 1201 North Miami.

HAIKEY CHAPEL

TULSA—Haikey Chapel would like to invite you to join them in a spring tradition. The church will be hosting a wild onion dinner on March 17 starting at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Adults eat for \$6.50 and children eat for \$3.50.

Haikey Chapel is located at 8815 East 101st Street, on the North Side of 101st St. between Memorial and Mingo.

TALLAHASSEE INDIAN METHODIST

OKMULGEE—Tallahasse Indian Methodist Church will be hosting their 100 year anniversary celebration / Togo Berryhill Memorial on February 17, at 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Master of Ceremonies will be Alfred Berryhill and officiating will be Sammy Chupco. Lunch will be served shortly after services.

Invited speakers include Malcolm Tiger, Edwin Jimboy, Harry Long, Jimmy Alexander, and George Doyle.

Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church is located 3 1/2 miles north of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex on highway 75, and then west on Celia Berryhill Road. 1 3/4 miles west.

CONCHARTY RELEASES CD

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church is set to release their first CD this month with 11 well-known creek hymns including "Hthvyatken Vlcect" meaning "Start at the dawn of each morning" and also "Oketv Nettv Espoke" meaning "Maybe the Last Day". Brian On-the-Hill the treasurer of the church wanted to say "The name of the CD, po-ho-sat-ce, this

is our people's way of saying, "Listen and don't forget." Listen to the stories and songs of your elders and don't forget God's gift to our people-the Mvskoke language. The creation of this CD will enable us to pass on that gift to the future generations and to anyone with a passion for protecting, preserving, and showing appreciation for the blessings of our language and songs. We'd like to dedicate this CD to those who devoted their life to the creation and preservation of such a wonderful place for us to fellowship, worship, and call home-Kvncate United Methodist Church."

A member of the church, Mark Pendergrass wanted to add, "The members of the church had hopes of making a CD that people could learn from, so that Creek songs would be carried on. We also put particular words in the songs that are understandable and hopefully people will sing along."

The CD will be available starting February 16, and can be purchased for \$10. For more information contact Mark Pendergrass at (918) 527-5155.

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

The Oklahoma Native American Evangelism Conference is an annual event and it's purpose is to encourage and equip

the churches to evangelize and make disciples of all nations. This year's Conference theme is: "Knowing God and Making Him Known" featuring life-changing messages, inspirational worship, and workshops offering motivation and tools to develop Native Americans Christian leaders and workers.

The Conference will be held March 1-3, 2007 (Thursday - Saturday) at Glorieta Baptist Church, 7308 S. Western, Oklahoma City, OK. The Conference has a line up of speakers and leaders that will bless and encourage you, featuring Keynote speaker, Josh Hunt (Nationally known speaker & author from Las Cruces, NM). Workshops will be held on Friday, March 2, 2007 with dynamic workshop leaders who will share ideas and strategies, to include, Richard Pickup and John Hummingbird, Cherokee Nation; Jennifer

Barnett, Jimmy Anderson, Creek-Seminole; James Coachman, Creek Nation; Rendon

Falls, Chickasha Nation; and out-of-state guest speakers and leaders, Y.J. Jimenez, Sacramento, CA; Jaye Martin, Atlanta, GA; and Alan Quigley, BGCO, OKC, and Dixie Sweezey, OKC. Worship music will be led by Phil Lawrence,

There is no charge to attend this conference. Meals provided free for all Conference participants, to include dinner on Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m.; three meals on Friday and breakfast on Saturday morning. The Conference is sponsored by area-wide Native American churches and the BGCO, Church Planting Ministries. For additional Information, contact, Dr. Emerson Falls, Glorieta Baptist Church at (405) 632-3365.

History of a Pastor: Jimmy Alexander

Pastor Jimmy Alexander of the New Joy Indian Baptist Church, was born on December 21, 1938, in Pawnee to William and Mary (Harjo) Alexander.

Jimmy was ordained on July 4, 1974 by the Oakhurst Indian Baptist Church.

Jimmy attended St. Gregory's College Alcohol and Drug abuse training in 1976 to 1977.

Then in 1977, Jimmy married Lorena Johnson in Miami.

In 1985 to 1988 Jimmy pastored Bemo Church.

From 1998 to 2000 Jimmy Pastored the Wekiwi Indian Baptist Church in Sand Springs.

Jimmy is a founding member of the New Joy Indian Baptist Church. In which he and six other founding members began the church in 2002.

The church that Jimmy helped start with only six members has now grown to 32 members.

Jimmy and Lorena have eight children sons: Tony Alexander, Marlin Thompson of Henryetta, Faron Thompson, Jake Thompson of Tulsa, and Richard Alexander; two daughters the late LaDonna Thompson and Carol "Cissy" Dunn of Sapulpa.

In 2006, Jimmy baptized 16 people out of the 32 members that attend the New Joy Baptist Church.

Jimmy wanted to add "The lord has blessed us in great ways as far as starting the church and having a facility to go and worship the lord. If you rely on the lord to survive then great things will come.

Jimmy is currently working to better his facility so that in time the Church can grow. The mission of the church is to relocate to a better facility, a regular church building. He is also traveling to numerous churches, funerals, hospitals to visit the sick, and to homes of people in nee of prayer.



Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Association 4th Sunday Dates			
Alabama Cedar Spring Cold Spring Forest Creek Mission Hutchachuppa Little Coweta Little Quarsarty Many Springs Okmulgee Prairie Spring Spring Weogufkee West Eufaula Yardeka Quarsada Alabama	Artusse Bemo Beaver Bird Creek Deep Fork Hillabee Hickory Ground #2 Hillabee Mekusukey Middle Creek #2 Montesoma Okfuskee Pigeon Sand Creek Eufaula Silver Spring Tulmochussee Wetumka	Baptist S.S. Mission Butler Creek Cedar Creek Cedar Creek Eufaula Grave Creek Greenleaf Nuyaka New Joy Ross Mission Sand Creek Sand Spring Thewarthle Tookparfka Tuskegee Seminole Arbeka Wekiwa Wewoka	Arbeka Big Arbor Cedar River Hickory Ground #1 High Spring (Okemah) High Spring (Konawa) Little Cussetah Middle Creek #1 New Arbor Randall Rock Spring Salt Creek Snake Creek #1 Snake Creek #2 Seminole Baptist Vian Creek Trenton
January 7 February 4 March 4 April 1	January 14 February 11 March 11 April 8	January 21 February 18 March 18 April 15	January 28 February 25 March 25 April 22

BIRTHS

Landon James Billy

BROKEN ARROW — Landon James Billy was born on November 3, 2006 to Misty Billy of Broken Arrow. He weighed 5 lbs. and 5 oz. and was 18 1/2 inches in length. Grandparents are David and Carolyn Billy of Broken Arrow. Great Grandparents are Woodrow and Rhoda Burgess of Broken Arrow; and the Late Frank and Annie Billy of Checotah, and an uncle, Michael Burgess of Indianapolis, IN.

BIRTHDAYS

Amy Hill

OKEMAHA — Amy Hill celebrated her 72nd birthday on December 30 with a dinner at the Sirloin Stockade. Her birthday is on January 1. Those attending were Jasper Hale, Delores Watson, Jeff Phillips, Kerri Flynn, Michael Flynn, Samuel Flynn, Amy Lou Hill, Boone Watson, Makayla Watson, Tara Dunson, Ann Lindsey, Marcie Lindsey, Brayleigh Lindsey, Michael Prangel, Buddy Lindsey, Rachel Lindsey, Lil Sheena Lindsey, Katherine Powell, Johnny Powell, Johnny Powell Jr., and Flora Jackson.

Jasmine Nicole Buckley

OKMULGEE — Jasmine Nicole Buckley turned 10 on November 6th. She celebrated with a swimming party at the Henryetta Inn and Dome. Jasmine is the daughter of Richard Buckley Jr. and Shelia Buckley of Okmulgee. Maternal grandparents are Sally Taylor of Okmulgee and the late Walter Taylor Sr. Paternal grandparents are Jackie Buckley of Weleetka and Richard Buckley Sr. of Clearview.

Robert W. Jones

OKMULGEE — Councilman Robert W. Jones celebrated his birthday on January 27. To celebrate his children Renee Jones, Roxanne Jones, and Ryan Jones brought a birthday cake after Saturdays' council meetings. He celebrated with family, council members, and guest. He is of the Deer Clan and his Tribal Town is Nuyaka. He attends Belvin Baptist Church and is the son of the late Elmer Jones and the late Elsie Roberts.

Stephanie Jean Crawford

SAPULPA — Stephanie Jean Crawford turned 21 years old on Jan. 12. She is the daughter of Tenna Van Woudenberg and David Crawford and her maternal grandparents are the late Elmer and Ester Van Woudenberg. Paternal grandparents are Floyd and Linda Crawford. Stephanie is also known as Hok-te Lane and is of the Wind Clan. She has one daughter named Mvhayv Cheyenne Felix.

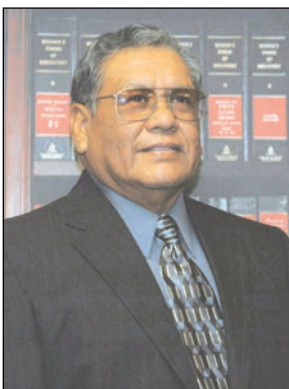
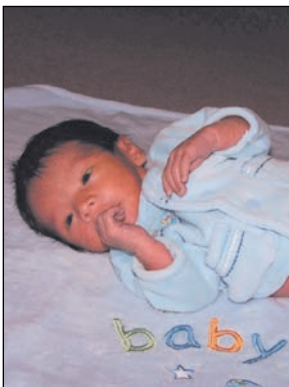
Trenton Jayce Horse

HENRYETTA — Trenton Jayce Horse celebrated his 3rd birthday on January 24, with a "Cars" themed party and a trip to McDonald's. Another party was thrown on January 27, at the Bristow Indian Community along with his cousin Jarrett Hogner, and cousin Kareffren Bagby. Trenton is the son of Jessica Cook and Dewey E. Horse Jr. His maternal grandparents are Norma Taryole and Marlin "Kayo" Thompson of Henryetta and William "Chebon" Cook and Peggy Martin of Okmulgee. His maternal great grandparents are Ella and the late

ACCOMPLISH-

Christina Renee Carden

SHAWNEE — Christina graduated from St. Gregory's University in Shawnee with a Bachelors Degree in Science on December 16, 2006. A member of the Phi Episolon Kappa organization. She is currently enrolled at the University of Oklahoma in the Martins program as a counselor in Human Relations. Christina is of the Wind clan. Christina is the daughter of Jeff and Beverly Cardey. The granddaughter of Sue Morgan and the late Leland Morgan. The great granddaughter of the late Willie and Kizzie Compier. Her plans are to help the Native American people.



Courtney McCollum

TULSA — Courtney participated in the 2006 Pre-teen America pageant; winning two trophies. She won Outstanding 9 year old and Second place in her division for her speech on freedom. She has been selected to be in the 2007 pageant which will be held May 26-28 in Tulsa. Courtney is the daughter of Tonya Jimboy McCollum and George and Sandy McCollum. The Granddaughter of Brenda LaSarge Remer and Debbie Jimboy and Mary Urso. Anyone interested in sponsoring Courtney or would like to donate to help Courtney please call Sandy (918) 752-1364 or contact Brenda LaSarge at 503 W. Yuchi Drive.



Lauren Tree Francis

OKLAHOMA CITY — Lauren Tree Francis, 8, of Creek, Choctaw, and Chickasaw descent, was named Student of the Month at West Nichols Hills Elementary in Oklahoma City recently and will be recognized during the months of December and January. Students are nominated by their teachers and Lauren's third grade teacher, Lisa Brooks, said she nominated Lauren because she showed the most improvement in subjects such as reading, which she tested in a fifth grade level. Brooks said the criteria for student of the month is simply "best overall" and that Lauren is doing well academically, behaviorally and "as a citizen of my class." Lauren's interest are: Stomp dancing, stickball, swimming, soccer, reading, art, science, and music. She enjoys outdoor activities and her favorite foods include: Spaghetti, Shrimp, Pho, Native American and Indian cuisine. Lauren is the daughter of Mark and Kathryn Francis, Oklahoma City, and is the granddaughter of Michael and Emma Coalgate, and Delbert and Mabel Hukill, McCloud.



Magdalene Ann Alexander

LAWRENCE, KS — Magdalene Ann Alexander graduated from Haskell Indian Nations University in May 2006. She received her Associate of Art in Liberal Arts. Magdalene is continuing with her education at Haskell in the Spring 2007 to receive her Bachelor degree in American Indian Studies. Magdalene is the daughter of Margaret Alexander of Lawrence, KS and Everett Thunderbull of Manderson, SD. She has two brothers and two sisters. Her maternal grandparents are the late Toby & Hattie Alexander of Lamar, OK. Her paternal grandparents are Alvina Thunderbull & the late Thomas Thunderbull of Manderson, SD.



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~Paid Advertisement by Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Cynthia J. Fox~

Medicine man donates items to museum

“A man was complaining about his leg, he said the pain was so bad that he couldn’t sleep,” said Lewis. “When I looked at it, he had a big red spot on it. So I got a piece of real sharp glass and I took a horn and I sucked on the wound and something started to come out,..it was a tail of a scorpion.”

HENRYETTA — Recently, the Oklahoma Historical Society contacted Muscogee (Creek) medicine man Dave Lewis, Jr. about plants and natural medicinal means that are grown locally.

Lewis who gained much of his knowledge from his Father, Dave Lewis, Sr., has spoken to groups and colleges like Northwest Texas St. University about healing methods found outside.

Lewis spoke with Dr. Mary Jane Ward, who is the Indian Historian at the Oklahoma Historical Society. Ward came to visit Lewis and received much more than just word of knowledge. Lewis donated medicine gourds and sticks, horns, as well as an Eagle feather that was used in blessing the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee.

Ward said that the Historical society is honored to receive such gifts. “We at the Historical are very appreciative of these gifts,” said Ward. “It will be added to the collections at the Oklahoma Historical Society. We will do our best to take good care of it, but at the same time it will be an opportunity for us to put away and preserve some of the tools that he (Lewis) has used over the years and his family has used over the years in serving the Creek people in healing and in other areas. So we are very excited about this. This is the first time that we have received a gift of this type.”

Ward said the donation will become a part of a series about Native American medicine men, which will be displayed in the museum. The display will be called “The Healers.”

Lewis, who once served as a National Council representative for the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, talks with reverence about the influence of ancestor Jackson Lewis and his Father on his life and how his own path in life was already chosen as a baby. His taking of medicine made by his family was readily accepted and was an indicator that his life may be that of a medicine man. “My Father told me that when I was a baby they (family) gave me some medicine they had just made,” says Lewis who admits the recipe is not always very tasty and that babies do not always take to the medicine. “But they said that I just drank it up. To them that was a sign that I would be accepting of the medicine, be comfortable with it and be able to use it.”

Lewis shared about his initiation process at the age of seven, including the gourd that was used by his mother and father to fulfill his status as a medicine man. Lewis said certain tools like the medicine sticks enabled the people in his family to administer medicine properly.

Lewis also stressed the importance of the red root and its historical significance and importance to the overall well-being of the tribe. This led Lewis to contribute to a book about medicinal healing and to remind younger men who are called to be medicine men about the significance of the red root. He recalls one incident where he addressed other medicine men about it. “Ceremonial grounds are open all summer” said Lewis. “They use red root all summer. Not one medicine man out of those ceremonial grounds never knew where red root came from. They never knew how it began to grow. I told Dr. Jordan its sad if something happens to me, they would never know where it originated from, the red root and the American ginseng root. That’s the reason why I wanted that book written. If something was to happen to me, at least they would know where the red root came from,



Muscogee (Creek) medicine man Dave Lewis, Jr.

they would understand.”

With Lewis’ knowledge of plants like the red root, he says that people have approached him and said doesn’t that make you feel good knowing that you are the only one that knows this. Lewis says that he just shakes his head no. “No, it makes me sad because when I am gone, it (knowledge) will be gone,” said Lewis. “They (people) couldn’t believe what I was saying, but I think about these things because there were things passed down to me and I have not passed them on.”

In recent years, Lewis admits that he has tried to pass on the knowledge to those he feels would benefit the most, the youth.

Lewis was even asked to give a lecture at North Texas State University about his knowledge and found great response, a DVD was even made. He says he had a recent invitation to a local Native American school, one that Lewis will not disclose, and their response disappointed him. “I was willing to go down there and talk to the kids and give them what I know,” said Lewis, “You know they would never take me up on that. I got discouraged, I said they don’t care about it, why should I worry about it. They should want to know about these things. This is what our medicine culture is all about.”

As mentioned earlier, one of the items that Lewis is donating to the Historical society includes an eagle feather that was used to bless the Creek Council House Museum. Back in 1994. Lewis talks about that time and what made the blessing so unique. “That council had never been blessed,” said Lewis. “If it did, I would have picked it up, there was nothing there. So it was the only time that it had been blessed.”

Not all of the items that Lewis used during the Council House Blessing were able to be given to the Cultural Society. Lewis had four medicine sticks that were used during the ceremony and were placed inside his closet sometime after. He recalls

that at one time he and his family had some work done inside their home. After the work was completed, his family were never able to find the medicine sticks. “I’m not saying that they (workers) got it,” comments Lewis, “ but I never saw them (medicine sticks) after that.”

He knows how special the sticks were to the overall process of the ceremony. “It’s sacred whenever you put these down,” said Lewis when explaining the use of the medicine sticks and the proper place they are supposed to be put down in order to fulfill the ceremony process, which is a four square area as they stick into the ground. “Everything negative is removed, I’m allowed to go in there and that is where you can communicate with the man above or the deceased medicine people.”

The medicine sticks are one of the many items that Lewis is donating and he shows Ward and others around just how important they are.

“This one here is my own,” says Lewis as he presents one of the medicine sticks. “Its still active, but this one here is retired.” Lewis explains that the reason being that the stick is retired is that a feather is placed inside of both of the openings. “Now this one belonged to my grandmother,” says Lewis. “Whenever you were initiated and they think you are ready, they give you one of these. Usually its the one that they (medicine people) have been using and you use that stick until you get your own. Then you have to retire that one, the one that you have been given.”

The medicine stick is an important tool of the medicine man, it can be commonly seen with him almost like a stethoscope might be seen with other doctors of other professions.

Not only is the actual medicine used through the medicine sticks, but songs of healing are also applied through them. “When you get through singing through them, you blow on it and then you have a bucket of water and you blow into it

and mix it with that water, the words with it,” he said.

Lewis says that he has done a lot of retiring. He has retired his grandmother’s and his dad’s medicine sticks. But there was another outside reason that Lewis retired the honored medicine sticks.

In 1954, Lewis entered the army, but before he did he had to make sure the medicine sticks that were passed to him from his father and grandmother were never used again. “I had to retire them,” said Lewis when discussing the service of the medicine sticks. “I had to make sure that they were never used again. The process was to put a feather in each side of the stick. They can never be used again and no song can be sung in going through this stick and come out at the other end.”

Lewis also talks about his mother and how powerful she was with medicine. Lewis remembers the time that he was initiated into the medicine process at the young age of seven.

“There was a rock out in the woods by some water,” says Lewis. “I used to sit on that rock with my feet hanging down. My mother told me to stand up and she dipped a gourd that had medicine in it into the water that was nearby and she would pour it on me.”

Even with his mother’s blessing, Lewis still needed the blessing from his father and he pointed to another gourd that he was also donating to the historical society. “Now this is the gourd that my dad made, he was going to initiate me but it was never used,” he said. “He said son your mom initiated you in the rank and same status that we’re at. There is nothing more that I can give you. You got it all.”

Other items that Lewis donated included small gourd cups that he and his father used for measuring medicine, some of which were used for little children. Nowadays they are used just as coffee cups but we used these back then.

One special item that Lewis is donating and holds dear to his heart is a horn, a small item that allows him to not only administer a serum in the proper amount but also to get any sickness or disease out of someone.

Lewis recalls two incidents in which the horn was used and sickness was released from someone.

“I used this (horn) one time when a man was complaining about a pain in his back,” said Lewis. “He said I can feel something back there moving and it really hurts.” Lewis, like any doctor would, assessed the situation and realized the proper administration to relive the pain and bring comfort. “He (patient) had to be turned over on his stomach, the area that was causing him pain could be clearly seen,” explains Lewis. “I cut him open where the spot was and sucked on it with the horn and a big green fly came out of his back.” Lewis half way jokes, “man I was glad that I didn’t suck that into my mouth.”

The tools that a medicine man uses often include cutting devices, sometimes even a piece of glass will do. Lewis admits that was the last time that he used the small device and like any physician, Lewis is concerned about his patients and makes sure the proper medicinal techniques are engaged, but also to make sure his own practice is protected as well. “Especially with people who are diabetics these days,” he said. “That’s one reason I don’t use this (horn) anymore, you have to cut them, they may not get healed and you get blamed for it.”

Lewis shares that he’s glad he was able to help many people throughout the years. One specific patient comes to mind that had a unique ailment. “A man was complaining about his leg, he said the pain was so bad that he couldn’t sleep,” said Lewis. “When I looked at it, it had a big red spot on it. So I got a piece of real sharp glass and I took a horn and I sucked on the wound and something started to come out, ...it was a tail of a scorpion.”

Section B, Page 6		MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS			February 2007
GENERAL FUND:	BUDGETS	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	BALANCE	Muscogee (Creek) Nation Quarterly financial statement
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	234,941.56	0.00	0.00	234,941.56	Quarter ending December 31, 2006 Prepared by the office of the controller
ECONOMIC DEVELOP/LAND	1,420,170.38	209,973.53	104,515.00	1,105,681.85	
TREASURY	3,162.32	0.00	4,000.00	(837.68)	In accordance with National Council Act 8-70, section 112, as amended by NCA
ANGEL TREE	0.00	0.00	740.85	(740.85)	
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	34,902.62	0.00	0.00	34,902.62	89-37, the following information for the pe- riod ending December 31, 2006 discloses the
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	504,518.47	79,336.48	72,938.43	352,243.56	
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	882,082.00	742.52	200,309.69	681,029.79	receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditure, and balance for all funds under the control of
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
CONSUMER LOANS	69,439.00	0.00	14,500.42	54,938.58	the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
CREEK NATION BINGO	23,484,159.94	306,034.69	4,882,745.25	18,295,380.00	
CN PERMANENT FUND	1,161,174.92	52,172.38	375,225.46	733,777.08	The receipts are dollar amounts re- ceived for the period ending December 31,
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	0.00	0.00	32,280.72	(32,280.72)	
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	1,081.00	0.00	141.50	939.50	2006. The figures include, but are not lim- ited to, federal dollars received on grants or
HENSSSLER ASSET MGMT	0.00	0.00	21,676.90	(21,676.90)	
NICWA	3,352.75	0.00	2,130.92	1,221.83	contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total
MCN OVERSIGH COMMITTEE	25,982.29	18,822.53	569.40	6,590.36	
FIRST CAPITAL MGMT PREM	0.00	0.00	26,337.08	(26,337.08)	dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending December
BANK ONE CONSOLIDATION	0.00	0.00	780.00	(780.00)	
VALLEY NAT'L BANK	0.00	0.00	16,000.00	(16,000.00)	31, 2006.
TRIBAL BUDGET	1,702,434.00	18,176.71	459,425.75	1,224,831.54	
MCN FLAGS & ETC	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	The budget figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive
MOTOR VEHICLE	1,735,791.66	17,916.63	141,190.68	1,576,684.35	
RED FORK FILM FESTIVAL	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	annual budget.
WARM MVSKOKE WELCOME	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND:	31,270,192.91	703,175.47	6,357,008.05	24,210,009.39	The encumbered amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase
DEPT. OF LABOR:					
WIA-TITLE IVA '06	374,631.58	4,548.07	131,240.71	238,842.80	orders at the end of the year.
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '06	80,441.43	11,047.37	25,388.15	44,005.91	
TOTAL DEPT OF LABOR:	455,073.01	15,595.44	156,628.86	282,848.71	Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each depart- ment, within that fund.
HOUSING & URBAN DEV:					
HUD-FOOD DISTRIBUTION	14,653.67	0.00	0.00	14,653.67	The balance figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of
HUD-NAHASDA '02	4,130,791.04	2,953,151.96	800,499.88	377,139.20	
HUD-NAHASDA '03	6,046,839.81	1,861,287.75	741,290.70	3,444,261.36	December 31, 2006.
HUD-NAHASDA '04	10,169,919.14	1,431,045.43	1,707,121.71	7,031,752.00	
HUD-NAHASDA '05	19,610,452.00	1,391,205.13	1,131,259.00	17,087,987.87	Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the Office of the Controller
HUD-MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING	671,000.00	0.00	0.00	671,000.00	
TOTAL HUD:	40,643,655.66	7,636,690.27	4,380,171.29	28,626,794.10	at (918) 732-7930.
DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SVC:					
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '05	175,916.75	21,583.77	152,684.61	1,648.37	
CCDBG MANDATORY '05	108,563.37	15,312.51	66,213.06	27,037.80	
FAMILY VIOLENCE '05	23,981.07	0.00	23,981.07	0.00	
LIHEAP '06	78,255.19	0.00	76,196.37	2,058.82	
FAMILY PRESERVATION '06	151,991.06	5,970.18	45,787.45	100,233.43	
CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT	241,607.10	8,082.78	23,830.84	209,693.48	
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '06	1,348,580.16	3,602.57	220,529.10	1,124,448.49	
CCDBG MANDATORY '06	835,264.81	22,978.02	206,044.62	606,242.17	
HEAD START '06	502,179.44	27,362.38	434,932.14	39,884.92	
TITLE IV-B '06	236,727.97	318.75	29,306.64	207,102.58	
FAMILY VIOLENCE '06	250,385.00	7,490.32	25,262.04	217,632.64	
LIHEAP '07	126,698.00	0.00	100,480.00	26,218.00	
CCDBG MANDATORY '07	2,532,671.00	25,758.00	277,377.43	2,229,535.57	
HEAD START '07	1,057,973.00	15,043.79	115,050.92	927,878.29	
TOTAL DHHS:	7,670,793.92	153,503.07	1,797,676.29	5,719,614.56	
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE:					
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '07	0.00	680.95	71,465.05	(72,146.00)	
TOTAL USDA:	0.00	680.95	71,465.05	(72,146.00)	
PROGRAM INCOME:					
PROCEEDS OF SALE	1,957,495.88	457,325.00	293,755.06	1,206,415.82	
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	5,505.00	0.00	0.00	5,505.00	
HOUSING EMERGENCY REHAB	0.00	21,160.00	1,042.04	(22,202.04)	
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	1,268,220.00	0.00	128,300.91	1,139,919.09	
TRANSIT	1,000.00	0.00	438.47	561.53	
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	112,233.00	78,591.08	8,666.30	24,975.62	
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	36,416.00	0.00	1,554.24	34,861.76	
TIP PROGRAM INCOME	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
ELECTION BOARD	33,000.00	0.00	0.00	33,000.00	
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	18,094.00	0.00	3,645.04	14,448.96	
GAMING REVOLVING	316,445.00	75,969.30	16,551.79	223,923.91	
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	13,656.00	0.00	0.00	13,656.00	
FOOD DISTRIBUTION	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	
INDIAN RESERVATION ROADS	250,000.00	0.00	2,192.79	247,807.21	
TOTAL PROGRAM INCOME:	4,012,564.88	633,045.38	456,146.64	2,923,372.86	
DEPT OF EDUCATION:					
LIBRARY SERVICE-ENHANCEMENT	24,442.34	0.00	11,281.34	13,161.00	
TOTAL DEPT OF EDUCATION:	24,442.34	0.00	11,281.34	13,161.00	
DEPT OF INTERIOR:					
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	18,841,399.92	697,976.72	1,361,996.34	16,781,426.86	
DOI-ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP	7,576.04	0.00	0.00	7,576.04	
KELLYVILLE ROAD	125.00	0.00	0.00	125.00	
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	19,649.84	0.00	0.00	19,649.84	
SKELLY/HASKELL	21,247.68	0.00	0.00	21,247.68	
HECTORVILLE ROAD	122,960.60	0.00	0.00	122,960.60	
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	19,385.65	19,041.73	0.00	343.92	
EUFAULA DORMITORY '02	160,239.89	0.00	0.00	160,239.89	
EUFAULA DORM '03	87,691.78	0.00	0.00	87,691.78	
CALVIN NORTH ROAD	13,782.45	9,996.74	0.00	3,785.71	
ARBOKA ROAD	153,235.67	0.00	0.00	153,235.67	
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '04	710.76	0.00	710.76	0.00	
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '05	4,734.26	148.94	926.67	3,658.65	
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '05	53,782.47	0.00	25,523.54	28,258.93	
EUFAULA DORMITORY '05	1,177,115.41	46,008.36	295,507.39	835,599.66	
FORESTRY PROJECT	160.00	0.00	160.00	0.00	
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '06	9,554.17	384.00	1,606.84	7,563.33	
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '06	335,157.33	9,028.90	106,850.86	219,277.57	
ENERGY & ECO DEV	25,000.00	164.00	2,409.87	22,426.13	
EUFAULA DORM '06	985,526.00	0.00	450.00	985,076.00	
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	1,310,861.27	131,779.00	16,420.00	1,162,662.27	
TOTAL DEPT OF INTERIOR:	23,349,896.19	914,528.39	1,812,562.27	20,622,805.53	
DEPT OF JUSTICE:					
TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM	120,669.20	927.28	20,380.92	99,361.00	
STOP VIOLENCE '06	168,000.00	114.90	16,895.64	150,989.46	
COPS	137,363.00	137,151.30	0.00	211.70	
TOTAL DEPT OF JUSTICE:	426,032.20	138,193.48	37,276.56	250,562.16	
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:					
GAP	110,000.00	2,500.00	20,626.60	86,873.40	
WATER POLLUTION '06	69,347.88	1,865.00	832.02	66,650.86	
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL '07	95,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	90,000.00	
TOTAL EPA:	274,347.88	9,365.00	21,458.62	243,524.26	
CAPITAL PROJECT:					
HEAD START BUILDING	54,128.00	0.00	37,764.68	16,363.32	
DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY	828,942.00	96,119.83	0.00	732,822.17	
OFFICE OF JUSTICE BUILDING	449,002.09	211,497.02	318,536.28	(81,031.21)	
VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICES	1,700,370.98	833,377.48	66,262.50	800,731.00	
LIGHTHORSE ADMIN BUILDING	1,387,359.25	32,299.11	14,100.14	1,340,960.00	
MULTI PURPOSE BUILDING	3,000,000.00	51,600.00	77,400.00	2,871,000.00	
HOLDENVILLE CASINO	1,746,135.00	135,211.10	71,661.90	1,539,262.00	
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECT:	9,165,937.32	1,360,104.54	585,725.50	7,220,107.28	
ENTERPRISE FUND:					
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	171,600.00	3,851.57	68,206.72	99,541.71	
FOUNTAINHEAD	313,520.54	34,875.00	49,501.36	229,144.18	
TULSA COUNTY PROPERTY	98,199.83	0.00	0.00	98,199.83	
IHS OFFICE BUILDING	18,739.00	0.00	836.56	17,902.44	
INDUSTRIAL PARK	628,268.94	0.00	0.00	628,268.94	
MACKEY SANDBAR PROJECT	0.00	0.00	2,046,059.88		
(2,046,059.88)					
TRIBAL UNIVERSITY	1,380,345.00	67,857.74	90,459.34	1,222,027.92	
BOARD OF REGENTS	50,000.00	0.00	7,964.19	42,035.81	
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE	0.00	0.00	600.00	(600.00)	
ROAD EQUIPMENT POOL	335,000.00	72,658.75	1,518.30	260,822.95	
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND:	2,995,673.31	179,243.06	2,265,146.35	551,283.90	
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND:					
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	1,502,982.00	39,090.47	85,077.55	1,378,813.98	
NAHASDA FORCE ACCOUNT	1,760,743.00	15,206.86	315,449.09	1,430,087.05	
NAHASDA MAINTENANCE	227,860.00	2,336.82	20,857.00	204,666.18	
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,850,482.00	17,746.92	276,240.93	1,556,494.15	
TRIBAL-CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	1,930,392.00	96,946.52	35,674.09	1,797,771.39	
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	0.00	0.00	1,501,467.82		
(1,501,467.82)					
ADMIN/INDIRECT COST	3,777,831.00	95,865.28	741,490.74	2,940,474.98	
TOTAL INTERNAL SERVICE FUND:	11,050,290.00	267,192.87	2,976,257.22	7,806,839.91	
TOTALS	131,338,899.62	12,011,317.92	20,928,804.04	98,398,777.66	

BUSTER BEAR SR.

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Buster Kelly Bear, Sr., were held January 29 at the Shurden Chapel with Reverend Wallace Gambler and Reverend Donnie McNac officiating.

He was born on May 14, 1927 in Henryetta to Molly Follapa and Turner Bear Sr.

Buster was a smelter operator for Kaiser Aluminum. He attended Missouri Military Academy until he was drafted to the United States Army.

He was a veteran of WWII as well as the Korean Conflict.


He was preceded in death by his parents; one daughter Molly Jane; sister Alice Lewis; and brother Art Fields.

Survivors included 12 children: Ima Ferdig and husband Dennis of St. Louis, MO, Buster Bear Jr. and wife Kathy of Tulsa, Inez Zimmerman and Husband Rick of Allen, TX., Illa Fife and husband Brian, Joe Bear, Linda Bear all of Dustin, Nathan Bear and wife Elizabeth of Cache, Sallie Bear of Dustin, Eddie Bear of Dustin, Erwin Bear, Emily Bear, Adam Bear all of Henryetta; 25 grandchildren; 35 great grandchildren; four sisters: Liza J. Harjo of Konowa, Annie Harjo of Henryetta, Louise Harjo of Muskogee, Ella Mae Bear of Dallas, TX.; four brothers: Claudie Fields of Henryetta, Turner Bear of Coweta, Wilson Bear of Checotah, Nukus Bear of Checotah; as well as a host of friends and other relatives.

Pallbearers included Leland Bear, Chris Zimmerman, Lijah Bear, Derek Fife, Brandon Bear, and Josh Bear.

Honorary Pallbearers were Mr. Bear's sons.

Interment was at the Harjo-Fields Family Cemetery.

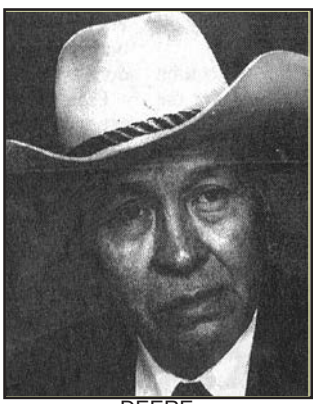


BEAR

Deere of Okmulgee; daughters: Susan DeAnna Ellis of Wetumka and Sandra Deneen Deere of Okemah; brothers Sammy Dean Deere of Longview, TX., and Wilson Deere of Hectorville; a sister Loumac Messer of Okmulgee; grandchildren: Crystal Naigin, Edward Dean Ellis, Michael Edward Deere, Andrew Robert Ellis, Candace Marie Deere and Ashley Deann Ellis; a great granddaughter Lauren Madison Naigin.

Casketbearers were Raymond Lowe, Rusty Lowe, Frank Sanders, Robbie Roberts, Tuffy Roberts, M.A. Proctor, Ronnie Proctor, and Freeman Lowe.

Interment was at the Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church.



DEERE

MAYME DOXTATOR

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Mayme Virginia Doxtator, were held January 20, with Reverend Aaron Braswell officiating.

Mayme was born March 17, 1918 in Hughes County to Jimmy Sullivan and Clara Williams. She was raised in the Hughes County area.

Maymehad recently returned to Oklahoma from living many years in Alaska and California.

She was preceded in death by her mother Clara May Larney; two brothers: Otis Sullivan and Tom Bruner; two nephews: Thomas and Barney Sullivan.

Survivors included niece Joanna Sullivan and a host of other nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Interment was at the Holdenville Cemetery.



DOXTATOR

WILLIAM MCGIRT

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for William McGirt were held on January 12, at the Tokepuchee Methodist Church, with Reverend Malcolm Tiger officiating assisted by Reverend Paul Fixico.

William was born on May 6, 1927 in Sasakwa to Chiley and Eliza (Puntka) McGirt.

He was brought up in Sasakwa and attended Greenleaf Schools. He moved to Oklahoma City as a young teenager in 1942, and made his home there for the rest of his life.

He was married to Florence Long, and the two of them were together for forty-one years before Florence passed away in 1995.

Willie was a member of the Tokepuchee Methodist Church.


He was preceded in death by his parents Chiley and Eliza McGirt; four sisters: Ella Coon, Emma Franks, Tochie Harjo, and Elsie Faulkner.

Survivors included: two daughters Liza McGirt and Virginia McGirt, of Oklahoma City; four grandchildren: Christina Cunnish and husband Truman of Oklahoma City, Sherry Ramirez of San Antonio, TX., Sean Johnson and wife Sonya and Melissa Johnson and husband Hector Maldonado, of Oklahoma City; ten great grandchildren; two brothers: Walter McGirt and wife Juanita, of Moore, and Jimmy McGirt of Wewoka; numerous nieces, nephews, relatives, and many friends.

Pallbearers included David Kocher, Roman Ramirez, Hector Maldonado, Joe Pigeon, Billy Wahpaha and Johnny Givings.

Honorary pallbearers included Sean Johnson, Kenneth McGirt, Leland Long Sr., Roscoe Davis, Manuel Martinez and A.J. Jones.

Interment was at the Fixico Family Cemetery.



DOXTATOR

TAYLOR FIELDS

EUFAULA — Funeral Services for Taylor Fields were held January 31 at the Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Raymond Beaver officiating.

Taylor was born on August 23, 1956 to Edna (Holuby) and Chester Fields in Talahina.

He later moved to the Eufaula area where he was raised and attended school.

After school Taylor was married to Mary Lou Harjo and worked at Smelter's Standard Iron and Steel in Oklahoma City for 1974 to 1981.

He moved back to Eufaula where he held various jobs until illness overcame him.

His hobbies were his love for OU, boxing, playing fast pitch, dominoes, and horseshoes.

Taylor was preceded in death by his step father Jack Belcher; brother Johnny Belcher; and sister Virhinia Fields.

Survivors included: one daughter Jessica Renee Fields of Oklahoma City; son Taylor Jr and wife Kristi Fields; eight grandchildren: Salyssa Brown, Richmond Deacon Pennokee, Jordis Dewayne Fields Rubideaux, Hillary, Emily, Sarah Cheyenne, Donovan, and Jordan Taylor Fields; brothers: Jackie, Richard, Eugene, Rob-

bie, and Ben; sisters: Judy, Ramona, Tiny, Marilyn, Jacquelyn, and Nancy; and lifetime friend Mary Lou Harjo.

Music was provided by Creek singers and Brian Beaver.

Casket Bearers included Jia Tainpeah, Chebon Holt, Bryan Holt, Robert Holt, Haden Fields, Jackson Lewis, and Chris Belcher.

Honorary Bearers will be Jackie Belcher, Richard Belcher, Eugene Fields, Robbie Belcher, Benjamin Belcher, Ray Tainpeah, and Harry Harjo.

Interment was at the West Eufaula Indian Cemetery.

SYLVIA LEE

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Sylvia Yvonne Lee were held January 31, ath the Christ the King Church.

Sylvia was born on May 30, 1936 to Ace and Lena Lowe Murphy in Schulter.

She was married in 1955 to Allen Wayne Mackey and together they had five children, three daughters and two sons.

In 1984 Sylvia married Carl Pine Lee of Beggs and were married for 22 years at the time of her death.

Sylvia was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, on sister, her first husband Allen and her two sons: Russell and Buck.

Survivors included: her husband Carl Lee; three daughters: Karen Robertson and husband Joe Robertson of Beggs, Kathy Mackey of Preston, and Connie Mackey of Kiefer; three step daughters: Carlene Wade, Linda Crook, and Lorene Plunket; six grandchildren; eight step grandchildren; and a host of great grandchildren.

MICHAEL NARCOMIEY

TULSA — Eulogy services were held for Michael James Narcomey with Reverend Tom Moore officiating.

Michael was born to Raymond and Frances Narcomey on November 2, 1946 at the W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah.

Mickey, as everyone called him, was raised in Eufaula, later moving to Tulsa where he remained the rest of life, and where he worked as a truck driver and furniture mover.

He is preceded in death by his parents Raymond and Frances, his sister Maxine, and brothers Jerry, and Elliot.

Survivors included brothers: Buster, Jacob, and Jackson; sisters: Brenda and Anna.

ELDEAN ROBERTSON

EUFUALA — Funeral services for Eldean "Phillips" Robertson, on January 27, at the Artussee Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Norman Daniel officiating.

Eldean was bron on May 8, 1938 at Mill Creek, OK to Woodrow and Alice (Manley) Wilson.

She attended school at Deere's Chapel through the 8th grade.

She married Birdcreek Phillips and started raising her family.

In the summer of 1950, she was baptized at Artussee by Reverend Daniel Scott.

Her hobbies included working in her church, teaching Sunday school, singing, cooking for her family, fishing, and watching her family play sports.

Eldean was preceded in death by Reverend Birdcreek Phillips, her parents Woodrow and Alica Wilson, son-in-law Larry Deere, and her grandparents Issac and Martha Manley.

Survivors included her children James Phillips, Ben "Georgie" Phillips, Joe Phillips, Paul Phillips, and Debbie Deere; 17 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; sister-in-law Mina Phillips; and brother-in-law Franklin Phillips.

Pallbearers were Sonny Barnett, Larry Deere, Jr., Elliott Fields, Joe McGirt, Dennis White, and D.J. Deere.

Honorary Pallbearers included: David Phillips,

Kelson Phillips, Zack Phillips, Jeremy Deere, Aaron Phillips, Devon Phillips, Benny Phillips, Ken Carr, Charles Deere, and James Deere.

Interment was at the Artussee Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

DIANA SWARTZLANDER

SAPULPA — Funeral services were held for Diana Mae Swartzlander, at the Smith Funeral Chapel.

Diana was born on November 29, 1938 in Sapulpa.

She retired from Sun Oil Company, after her retirement she went to work for Crystal Bowl, she not only worked for Crystal Bowl she was known as a very good bowler.

She was preceded in death by one son Robert D. Swartzlander and one brother Jim Swartzlander.

Survivors included daughter Diana Lynn Nunn and husband Curtis of Sapulpa; grandchildren Heather Williams, Misty McCall, Robert D. Swartzlander, Brandy Lynn Harding, and Miranda Lynn Nunn; great grandchildren Alyssa Lynn McPherson, Cassandra Lynn McPherson, Hailey Renae Duncan and Dylan Matthew Duncan; nieces Tammy Swartzlander Alien and husband David, Lisa Swartzlander Crowl and Melvin; nephew Jimmy Swartzlander and wife Mable; and numerous great-nieces and great nephews; cousins Mary Lou Powell and Tony, Teddy Lee Williams; sister-in-law Pat Swartzlander; good friends Betty Harbrough, Juanita Clark, Richard and Barbara Burris.

Interment was at the Green Hill Memorial Gardens.

GEORGE TIGER

HANNA — Funeral services for George Palmer Tiger "Wildcat" were held in Irving, Texas on November 22. Another on in November 25, at the Hanna Indian Community with Richmond Carr and Wilbur "Chebon" Gouge officiating.


George was born October 13, 1961 in Claremore, to Clarence Tiger and Lena Tiger.

"Wildcat" grew up in Hanna until he graduated from 12th grade in 1981. He then moved to Tulsa, and in 1989 he moved to Irving, Texas where he was a resident for 17 years.

He married Melinda Turney on March 25, 1989 in Tulsa. He was also a member of the Irving Bible School.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother Nettie Deo, grandpa Bill, grandparents George and Melissa Tiger; three nephews; one aunt.

Survivors included his wife Melinda of the home; parents Clarence Tiger Sr. of Sapulpa and Lena Tiger of Sapulpa; three brothers: Clarence Tiger Jr. of Sapulpa, Hully and wife Michelle fo Kellyville, James and wife Mary of Glenpool; one sister Lucy of Sapulpa; one half brother Micheal and wife Josie of Cromwell; six nieces; three nephews; two great nephews; one great niece; aunts; uncles; on step-mother; two step-sisters; one step-brother; and a host of family and friends.



TIGER

GRATITUDE

On behalf of Tom Dean Deere, the family would like to give a special thanks the Muskogee Creek Nation, Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church, relatives, and friends for their help and support in their time of grief during the loss of their loved one.

Thank you all very much.

Tom Dean Deere Family

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Harjo's film featured during Native forum program of the 2007 Sundance Film Festival

PARK CITY, UT — Tribal citizen, Sterlin Harjo, recently had his film, "Four Sheets to the Wind," featured during the 2007 Sundance Festival Program's Native Forum. The Forum features a program of panel discussions, filmmaker workshops, and networking events that provide opportunities for Indigenous filmmakers to share their expertise and knowledge with each other and the larger independent film community.

This year's Festival provided a world stage for Native American and Indigenous filmmakers whose works include two short films and four features screening in the Competition and Spectrum Categories. The 2007 Festival includes work from Native American and Indigenous filmmakers from New Zealand, U.S.A., and the Philippines.

Sundance Institute's commitment to supporting Native Cinema is woven throughout the 25-year history of the Institute. Rooted in the recognition of a creative and artistic power inherent in Indigenous artists, the Native Initiative supports the development of Native filmmakers and the exhibition of their work. The Initiative encourages Native and



FOURSHEETS TOTHEWIND

In the midst of mourning his father's death, Cufe Smallhill is compelled to explore the world outside the reservation and find a more fulfilling life. He visits his sister in the big city of Tulsa and she opens the door for Cufe into a new world.

Indigenous Cinema by hosting the Festival's Native Forum and supporting filmmakers through the Institute's Feature Film and Documentary Film Programs, the Independent Producers Conference, and the Sundance Institute/Ford Foundation Film Fellowship.

"Each year the Native Forum continues to raise the profile of Native and Indigenous Cinema and showcases works by a range of talented filmmakers," said N. Bird Runningwater,

Associate Director, Sundance Institute Native American and Indigenous Initiative. "The Forum activities this year will continue to connect Native and Indigenous Cinema with the marketplace of independent film. Through the Film Festival as well as the labs, workshops and other programs, Sundance Institute brings together the writers, directors, and producers of Native and Indigenous Cinema as part of a global filmmaking community." Sterlin Harjo is a native of Hold-

enville, Oklahoma, and a member of the Seminole and Creek nations. He studied painting at the University of Oklahoma before tackling screenwriting and film theory at the university's film and video-studies program. Harjo completed development on Four Sheets to the Wind through the Sundance Institute's Filmmakers Lab. In 2004, the Sundance Institute awarded him an Annenberg Fellowship, and Four Sheets to the Wind was a finalist for the NHK Award.

FOUR SHEETS TO THE WIND

Independent Film Competition:
Dramatic
U.S.A., 2006, 91 Minutes, color
Director: Sterlin Harjo
Screenwriter: Sterlin Harjo

Cufe Smallhill's father never has much to say, but one day, he is quieter than usual. When Cufe finds his father dead beside a bottle of pills, he does as he promised and drags the body out to the family pond, uncer-



Harjo

emoniously sinking it to the bottom. But everyone in the community is expecting a big funeral, so Cufe, his cousin, and his mom decide to fake one. In the midst of mourning, Cufe realizes he is compelled to explore the world outside the reservation and find a more fulfilling life. His sister, Miri, comes from Tulsa for the funeral and invites him to visit her in the big city. She opens the door for Cufe into a new world.

Director Sterlin Harjo's wonderfully crafted first feature is a fresh and delightful film about healing and the ties that bind people together. Harjo creates a rich Oklahoma atmosphere with its rural landscapes and easy country rhythms, infusing the entire film with a warm sense of humor, while Cody Lightning and Tamara Podemski give charming performances as Cufe and Miri. Four Sheets to the Wind is a heartwarming valentine of humanity and hopeful

Anti-drunk driving Commercials target New Mexico Natives

Story reprinted from www.indiancountry.com

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - "There is an enemy among us," and that enemy in Indian country is drunk driving. It's also the opening line for a public service announcement that features a Native grandmother who reaches for the car keys of a man stepping out of bar with the intention of driving home.

The two spots - one 30 seconds and the other one minute - will air on New Mexico television stations starting Dec. 19.

Last year there were 194 driving while intoxicated-related deaths in New Mexico alone, and Natives made up 25 percent of that demographic, said G. Michelle Brown-Yazzie, Navajo/Oglala Sioux/Salish-Kootenai, and the state's tribal DWI coordinator for the Department of Transportation.

"The rate of Native Americans that die from drunk driving is three times higher than any other ethnicity," Brown-Yazzie said, referring to nationwide statistics.

According to sources, this is the first PSA made that targets a Native audience on the topic of drunk driving.

Lonnie Anderson, Apache and the PSA's creative director, formed what he called the "Indian dream team." When he and producer Akash Khokha met to brainstorm the project, they decided to e-mail a copy of the script to Chris Eyre, the director of "Smoke Signals," "Skinwalkers" and an array of other popular Native films.

Eyre enthusiastically assumed



the role as director and even arrived one week early to prepare for the shoot. "When Chris said yes, we were jumping up and down," Khokha said.

Khokha credited Eyre's close attention to details and for eliminating stereotypes of Indian people as his directorial strengths. "He's absolutely professional and very creative. And he's one of the best directors I have ever worked with," he said.

Subsequently, the team asked Native actor Gary Farmer, who was working in nearby Santa Fe, if he would appear in the production. Farmer said yes.

"To have Gary in it was a real pleasure because I think he's someone that's looked up to as an actor and as a person in our Indian community," Eyre said.

The two have a working history together, as Farmer played Arnold Joseph, the father of Victor in "Smoke Signals."

Eyre made small, yet significant,

changes to eliminate stereotypes. For example, he exchanged the beat-up pickup truck in the ad for a newer model, which he said was more in line with what young Indian people drive today. "My goal was not to show any stereotypical perceptions, especially when it's an Indian actor," he said.

Farmer plays a man who walks out of a bar, not intoxicated but not fit to drive, either. Before he can jump into his truck an elder, Adelina Fernando-Sanchez, Laguna, takes his car keys. Next, a group of people step forward and form a circle around him. Eyre and Anderson said the circle represents the community coming together to stop one of their own from making a poor choice.

"We wanted to do a piece that wasn't a shaming spot, and to encourage the community to come out," Anderson said. "It's all of our responsibility to come together in the community." Fernando-Sanchez, 67, said she

was surprised when she was asked to play the elder who grabs Farmer's keys. She credited her children and grandchildren, who frequently work as movie extras, for encouraging her to audition. "I was surprised when they picked me," she said. "It was difficult at times, but interesting and fun."

Fernando-Sanchez had an extra role in the blockbuster miniseries "Into the West." However, the brief role she played in this PSA hit close to home: the pain in her voice was evident when she briefly described losing her 27-year-old son to the perils of alcoholism.

Filming the PSA took less than one week and wrapped up on Dec. 12. None of the actors speak during the ad. Producers have an ideal about who they will select to do the voice-over upon final editing, but didn't want to reveal a name until the individual committed to the project.

Khokha said the filming was made possible with the collaboration of his company, Experience It All Productions, and the local talents of Southwest Productions and Vaughn Wedeen Creative Inc. He added that there were numerous other contributions made by companies abroad. Tim Hanrahan, creative director and part-owner for Wieden and Kennedy - the creators of Nike commercials - wrote the PSA. He was also central in writing the scripts of past American Indian College Fund commercials, according to sources.

"If we just save one life, it will be well worth it," Khokha said.

Karavida Inc. and ION Television present "i" on Tulsa KTPX-TV-44

TULSA—Karavida, a television production company based in Gardiner, NY, has sent a crew to Tulsa to interview local people and organizations about what they do for their community. The company's goal is to provide various U.S. cities with 52 upbeat and informative shows with a local series title, "i" on Tulsa.

The crew consists of a camera person, set coordinator, and a host who tour the U.S. with audio-visual equipment in search of exciting guests and current information. The guests are all invited volunteers who wish to get the word out about their organization or cause. They participate in a 30 minute one-on-one interview with a charismatic "i" on host. The content is guided by an Ascertainment list of ten or more topics provided by the local station. The most prevalent topics are health, education, crime, and the environment, but Tulsa's own KTPX-TV provided some unique issues. Tulsans are talking with Karavida host, Peggy Sue Skipper, about art education, mental illness, addiction, senior care, and physical fitness among many other relevant subjects.

These positive and informative interviews will air on KTPX-TV 44, an affiliate of ION Television, owner and operator of the nation's largest broadcast television station group. The "i" on series are public affairs shows in compliance with FCC regulations that promise to provide the most informative guests, exciting hosts, and current information. For more about Karavida Productions and ION Television please visit their websites: www.karavida.tv or www.ionline.tv



Ted Isham

Creek Council
House Museum

Curator

The mission statement of the Creek Council House Museum states that the museum is dedicated to the promotion of the culture of the Creek people. Why is that a desirable attribute for an institution to strive? Without places like the museum, many of the memories of our ancestors would be lost to us all and we would not know the many stories of triumph, despair and struggle much of our history has to offer.

As we go through life, we are reminded of the various cycles around us, the stages of life, the birth and death cycle, the growth and decline of communities (cities), the movements of the moon and stars and the seasonal progressions.

During the recent ice storms that tore through our Tribe and the state, I was reminded of the importance of community. Community as in individual, family, town and tribe is for the Mvskokvlke a concept that is ingrained within all of us. We may not see it very much in its purest forms these days, but it is within all of us if we are truly Creek. Our ancestors relied on the concept of

community for their survival. Without community, Creeks would have disappeared from this earth long ago with no one to remember them. Our ideal of community is based upon the principle of working together for the benefit of all. In this style of living, pooling resources helps to fend off the chaos of the world and bring a sense of stability and comfort to those who practice it. It is a positive form of welfare, where everyone within a community is no more important or above anyone else and each individual is cared and provided for. We saw the concept of community during the recent ice storm. Our people thought about our families, neighbors, and elders by helping and checking on each other.

The purpose of the community is to gather together each person of the group and place with them the love, the caring, the ethos and the knowledge of the tribe or town collective. This is seen in the passing on stories from elders to young people. It used to be that stories were passed on during certain times



of the year. In other words, the stories are uttered during the time when it is safe to do so without inviting danger from the source of the specific knowledge imparted. For example, we cannot talk about the animals that are the subjects of the information given to us while they are still out and about, as they can hear us. We wait until the time when those animal leaders go to sleep during their hibernation periods. It is during this time when we are able to pass on the wisdom of our animal ancestors to help us to survive.

How many of us still use this time period of the long cold days of winter to listen to our elders pass on the information of our ancestors? How many of us still have elders to pass information on to us and our children? What are we to do if there are no elders to help teach us? Will we begin to forget the teachings of the Mvskoke people and forget who we are? The concept of the community is still viable for us all and if we utilize it and allow it to nurture us, we can be brought out of the long dark nights of the winter cycle to the safety

of the spring. We see the Museum as a place where our descendants will be able to come and see for themselves how we survived to be able to tell the story of who we are. The Museum can be a community repository of cultural knowledge collected together and be an island where Mvskoke history is surrounded by the modern world.

I was reminded of all of this as I sat in the dark during the height of the worst ice storm to hit us in recent times. My thoughts turned to stories and the images of Cufe and Nokose came to me and I could see them sitting together in their den. The bear cut off some of his fat to help feed himself and then the rabbit tried to do the same. As the rabbit had no extra fat to use he had no food to eat, so the story unfolded. This story had been told to us countless times before, but in the cold and dark, had now become crystal clear. I can now appreciate and understand the concept of community. I was warmed though by the thoughts that the sense of community brought to my mind. Later, sitting by candlelight and the air not so cold now, with my empvlse of the Nokosvlke clan, I marvel at the wisdom of our ancestors. I too can survive as I am este Mvskoke. Mvskoke toyis ci! Then it happened -- in a jarring moment -- the lights came back on and the warm images that had settled in my mind quickly evaporated. I was bombarded by the TV blaring out some stupid message about "having Arby's on my mind."

How rude!

Mvtekosan makvranis ci!

Council House Upcoming Events

Submitted by Ted Isham, Creek Council House Curator

The Creek Council House Museum and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Office of Historical and Cultural Preservation have been working together to develop classes to train teachers in traditional arts and activities of the Muscogee Nation.

Here are some upcoming activities at the Museum. The Creek Council House Museum has taken on the role of the community teacher with the various classes held at the museum. As the repository of the Tribe's history and culture, the Museum seeks to invigorate, promote, develop, and rediscover the tribal identity of the Creek people. Working together to maintain our culture and traditions is what the elders have passed on to younger people for generations.

Several years ago the Museum and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Office of Cultural and Historical Preservation (with the assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council) recognized a need to train a new generation of traditional artists. Mary Edwards Smith, already an award winning Creek potter, was one of the artists that answered the call to be trained in traditional basket making. She has since gone on to receive recognition and awards for her basket weaving. "I am excited to be able to pass on our traditional arts to the next generation of artists. Even though it looks complicated, most children pick up basket weaving easier than adults," she said.

Mary Smith, of Bixby, has taken the time and effort to re-learn one of the most unique styles of basketry of Mvskoke origin called the double-false braid rim basket. This style of basket is unique to the Mvskokvlke as it was the form that offered the most resistance to unraveling than any other form of



weaving. This hardy style of rim has been used by the Mvskoke for millennia, as seen in the archaeological mound site records throughout the Southeastern United States. Baskets like this were used to help build the mounds of our ancestors, as well as being used for everyday household use in food preparation. This style of basket was also used in the funeral rituals of our ancestors as funerary containers. This basketry was the precursor to the development of pottery, which happened thousands of years ago.

The double-false braid rim style basketry was lost to the modern-day Creeks as the events of the Trail of Tears uprooted us from our homelands and

brought us to a foreign environment that was drier and less diverse. Also, in this new environment, the standard plant of choice-river cane was not as abundant here in the Indian Territory as in the southeast. We tried to change to newer raw materials to weave the same styles of baskets that we did in the SE, but the newer materials were also harder to acquire. We can see the evidence of the loss of weaving materials within the various collections of baskets held by many museums. In museums, we see river cane baskets from the early years of removal but this material gives way to split-oak as a weaving material, and then around the 1900's we see this unique rim style basket disappear altogether. Mary Smith has been studying the patterns left in old baskets of our ancestors to experiment and try different weaving processes to re-discover the form that was used by the Mvskoke of old. With Mary's efforts, a basket style has come back after 100 years of absence and is now available to teach to anyone who will commit the time and effort to learn. Maybe we can use this knowledge to re-build some of our mounds as we did in the past as we investigate who we are and where we come from.

We hope to promote and teach this basket style to as many of the upcoming Creek artists as want the knowledge. The Museum has video taped each class and will present the finished video on the internet for the use of all Creeks. Although the classes are free, the knowledge comes with a proviso of pass-

ing the knowledge along. We want more teachers to go out and be a participant in the promotion of the cultural knowledge base of the Creeks.

Other classes that the Council House has recently presented are pottery classes, a cooking class and will present other cooking classes in the fall of 2007. These classes focus on the natural development of these skills to see how our ancestors would have performed them. In the pottery class, we processed the clay from the ground to the pot while using the open pit firing method to finish the pottery. For the cooking classes we will work with the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative to cook traditional foods. The Annual Council House Art Festival in June will conduct a series of classes with grant assistance from the Oklahoma Arts Council. We will be having a jewelry making class and demonstration during the Creek Festival. This class will be conducted by internationally known Creek/Seminole jewelry maker, Kenneth Johnson, who will look at the use of natural resources to make items of fashion.

The 2007 Council House Arts Program is offered to the community by the Creek Council House Museum, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Office of Historical and Cultural Preservation and sponsored in part by funding from the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Indian culture center seeks extension of funding deadline

TULSA (AP) — Organizers of a proposed American Indian Cultural Center are requesting more time to raise money for the \$65 million, two-phase project.

Project leaders missed a \$3 million end-of-the-year fund-raising milestone required by its land lease with Tulsa's River Parks Authority. Monetta Trepp, board member of the Nation Indian Monument and Institute has sent a letter to the authority requesting an extension.

"We've raised about \$1 million toward the goal," she said Tuesday January 9. "I'd be happy to have another six months or so, but that might be pushing it."

Matt Meyer, the River Parks Authority's executive director, said the decision will be up to the agency's board.

"River Parks is very supportive of the project. We want it to be successful," Meyer said.

The lease requires the group _by the end of 2007_ to have raised the entire \$30 million cost of the project's first phase.

The nonprofit National Indian Monument and Institute signed the 99 year lease in January 2005 for 39 acres on the west bank of the Arkansas River. The lease is for a token \$1 per year, but it has fund-raising milestones to ensure that the project moves forward.

The group met its \$500,000 fund-raising goal at the end of 2005, with the help of a grant from the Economic Development Administration, a unit of the U.S. Commerce Department.

But Trepp said further fund-raising efforts have been difficult because the cultural center's design has changed because of the topography of the site.

"We now have the architectural drawings to begin a true capital campaign," she said.

So far, area tribes have contributed only

small amounts, Trepp said, but additional donations are being discussed.

The construction of an American Indian cultural center in Oklahoma City that has consumed a lot of available federal and state money also is complicating fund-raising efforts, she said.

"I know there's some help for us out there," Trepp said. "A lot of people have been telling us to comeback after the start of the year, so that's now."

The National Indian Monument and Institute was formed in 1991 with the goal of creating a place to showcase the region's American Indian culture.

The board of directors consists of a cross-section of tribal representatives, including the Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), Osage, and Choctaw nations. But the group has struggled to find the financial backing to transform its dream into reality.

The Vision 2025 county wide sales-tax initiative gave the project a boost by setting aside \$2 million for necessary infrastructure, but that money is on hold until private fund-raising efforts produce results.

The first phase of the project with its price tag of roughly \$30 million, consists of a theater, a restaurant and mixed-purpose space where arts festivals and other cultural events could be held, architect Robert Johnson said.

It also would provide office space for the National Indian Monument and Institute and some that could be leased by other American Indian Organizations.

The second phase, which would cost about \$35 million, would include a museum and a National American Indian Monument, Johnson said.



Creek athlete heading to Bacone College to get her kicks

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

MANNFORD — The first time Andrea Caywood visited the campus at Bacone College, it probably didn't register as much of a memory. Not that she wasn't impressed with the historic Native American institution, but because she was still in her mother's womb.

Now, 18 years after the Wacoche Family Reunion that day at Bacone, she is heading back by way of a full athletic scholarship to play soccer for the Lady Warriors. For Andrea, who has been playing soccer since she was 8 years old, it has taken a lot of hard work to realize a dream. "Nobody in my family has really had an opportunity to do something like this, so I feel really blessed and am proud to go." It almost seems like fate led Andrea back to Bacone. It was the site of that first family reunion, and her great-great uncle was honored at Bacone with the naming of Wacoche Hall.

It seems that this special day meant a little more to Andrea and her parents because of some recent hard times. The last few months have not been easy for the Caywood family. Andrea's younger brother, who would be a freshman at Mannford High School, passed away about four months ago. It was obvious that they were happy to have such a joyous occasion to lift them up. "She has really been through a lot lately," said Andrea's mother Melissa Caywood. "So this is a good day, and it shows the Native American youth that they can do anything, no matter what the situation is."

Character counts at Bacone College and that was definitely a factor in their pursuit of her. "At Bacone we're a Christian school, so we want athletes that will not only contribute



REALIZED DREAM

Andrea Caywood, with her parents and coaches by her side at Mannford High School, signs a letter of intent to play soccer at Bacone College in Muskogee.

photo by Jerrad Moore

to the success of the team, but to the community and themselves as well," said Bacone women's soccer head coach Jeff Lean. And Coach Lean believes she will hold her own on the field as well. "She can come in and have an immediate impact for us."

That kind of praise is something that Andrea has worked hard to achieve

throughout her high school career. As just a freshman she was an honorable mention All-District selection. All-District selections followed in 2005 and 2006 and her high school coaches believe her senior year will be capped off by a selection to the All-State squad.

She has also been involved with other sports as a member of the suc-

cessful basketball program at Mannford, and an All-State performer on the track and field team. In addition to those titles, Andrea recently added one more to that long list as she was named this year's Homecoming Queen at Mannford High School.

So life is looking good for Andrea Caywood, and her parents are over-

whelmed with pride in this special young lady. "It's every parents dream for their kids to do great things and have better opportunities than them," said her father Andrew Caywood. "She is doing that, and I can't even describe how proud her mother and I are of her."

Baker using her talents to make a difference

Creek swimmer promoting healthy lifestyle to Indian people

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

NORMAN — When Caitlin Baker was in Denver, CO this past summer competing alongside over 8,000 athletes at the North American Indigenous Games, she only noticed one problem. She was the only swimmer representing the state of Oklahoma.

"She really couldn't believe that she was the only one," said Caitlin's mother Edith Baker. "When she came back, she didn't want that to be the case in the future, so she got active." Active might be an understatement.

The lack of Native swimmers led her to question why she was the only one. She contacted a friend she had met at the games who lived on a reservation. The friend opened her eyes to the problems that plague the country's Native people.

"I learned about how high the diabetes rates are, and it's just crazy," she said. "We as Native Americans are about double the risk of others to suffer from the disease. I knew that if we had more activities available like swimming, then that would lead to healthier lifestyles."

So she sprung into action, and what

started out as a focus group at Anadarko's Riverside High School has become a state-wide mission to get more Native Americans involved in these type of activities. Competitive swimming isn't a sport that is very popular in the Native American community, that's evident by Caitlin being the lone Oklahoma competitor at the NAIG, but she is looking to change that. "My goal is to go to as many small schools and communities as possible and encourage the people there to get involved and make it happen," said Caitlin. "Two years from now, when I go to the games in Canada, I want a lot more kids on the team."

With the hard work she has put in since returning from last year's competition, she should definitely have more teammates in the future. During her recruitment efforts Caitlin has partnered with the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic, the Association of American Indian Physicians, the Women's Sports Foundation, the American Diabetes Association, USA Swimming and the United States Olympic Committee. She is also visiting

tribes and tribal officials to try and promote the construction of facilities that will foster healthier lifestyles. "So many of the places I go don't have pools or even workout centers," she said. "The kids I talk to want to be more active, they just don't have a place to go."

To most people, it would seem like a huge burden for a 13 year-old to take on. It's a good thing her parents provide such a great support system. "I'm like her secretary," laughed Edith Baker. "We're just so glad that she's found such a tremendous passion."

Although Baker spends quite a bit of time getting her message out, she doesn't let that take away from the practice habits that have made her a great swimmer. Her track record speaks to that; 2005 Oklahoma State Champion (11 year old division), Medaled in 4 events at Indigenous Games, Qualified for 2006 Central Zone Championships. On top of all that she's also an honor student in the classroom.

Keep your eyes on this special Native American talent. Don't be surprised to see her competing in big time collegiate events in the near future. "I know I'll swim in college," said Baker. And she believes that the Native American youth have much greater potential than even they realize. "I think we need to just start saying it and truly believing that we'll go (to college), instead of just hoping."

To contact Caitlin or to get involved, reach her by e-mail at swimmagirl2012@yahoo.com.



Creek running back featured on cover of magazine

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

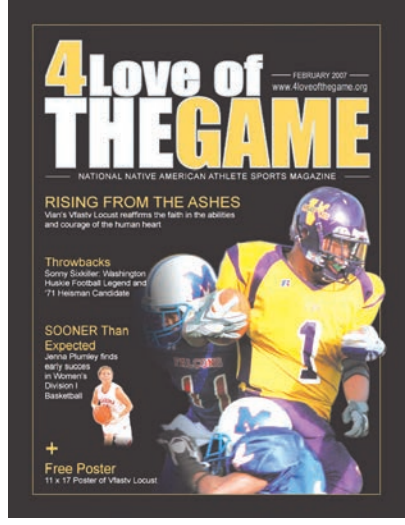
HENRYETTA — Snow, sleet, ice and rain have slowed down the majority of the state the last month and a half. Those conditions, along with a lack of funding, have also delayed the delivery of the second issue of *4 Love of the Game Magazine*, but have not derailed the issue itself.

For the next couple of weeks the magazine will begin circulation in hopes of gaining subscribers with a whole new batch of stories and features. Featured on this edition's cover is Creek athlete and superstar running back Vfastv Locust of Vian. Locust enjoyed a roller coaster season that was a story of disappointment, redemption and achievement all in itself. That story is detailed in this

month's issue. Along with the story, the magazine will include an 11 x 17 pullout poster of Locust. Also featured are a visit with Oklahoma Sooners standout Jenna Plumley and a feature on Derrick Shaw, the deep snapper for the Big 12 Champion University of Oklahoma football team.

Copies of the magazine can be picked up at various locations but most issues can be picked up through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications department by contacting Lucas Taylor at (918) 732-7634 or by logging on the internet and visiting www.4loveofthegame.org.

If your business is interested in advertising in the magazine e-mail lvhme4@yahoo.com



HOT CORNER

Hensci! I don't know why but it always seems like February is not a good month for sports. It's probably just due to the fact that there is so much going on in January, that the month afterward just seems like a clean-up effort after an F5 tornado. Regardless of the situation, however, you guys know me and we've got plenty to discuss in this month's edition of the 3 Bag. So let's get started.

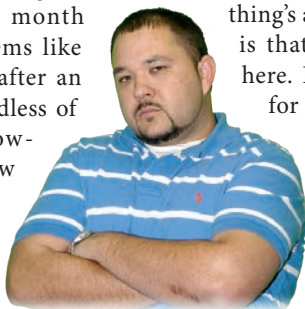
First off I want to congratulate the Florida Gators for taking Ohio State out behind the woodshed and delivering a laughable rout in the BCS National Championship game. In the weeks leading up to the game I became increasingly doubtful of this "invincibility" notion of Ohio State created by the national media. I might just have to lay it out on the table; ESPN doesn't know what they are talking about a majority of the time. All we heard all year was how great the Buckeyes were and how they were on a "collision course with destiny." It was a collision alright, one that hit them right in the face. From now on in the college national championship game, when everybody from ESPN to the **USA Today** is picking one team, I'll take the other squad. The only question is how I didn't learn my lesson from OU?

Speaking of OU, I can't help but wonder what's going on down in Norman. National signing day was last Wednesday and there was a time when Bob Stoops and Co. would not only finish in the Top 10 on the field, but in the recruiting wars as well. In college football, recruiting is about as integral to success as any factor. This year's Oklahoma class won't even show up in anybody's Top 25, but there are some gems in there. DB Austin Box from Enid is going to be a special player and LB Mike Reed from Yuba Community College in California will make an immediate impact on the defensive side of the ball. It's just a little bit of a concern to not see Oklahoma landing the big names like in years past. Maybe some of the prep stars feel that the Sooners have slipped a little in the college football hierarchy. Or it could be that the coaches have focused on the Josh Heupel-type recruit, the one who won't get any mention from

the "recruiting experts" but comes in and piles up and wins championships. Sooner fans are hoping that it's the latter.

I hate to say it but one of the best things about the month of February is that it means March is almost here. I have a pretty big schedule for March. First I'll catch back up with the Red Hot Chili Peppers in OKC, then it's nothing but basketball. The NCAA Tournament will be going on, as well as the High School State Championships. This year I plan on setting some kind of record for the amount of high school State Tournament games I attend. The reason for this is simple. I have been to BCS bowl games, national championships, Busch Stadium, Wrigley Field and many others. But I can't say that any of those places exceed the passion, emotion and excitement that the end of the road for high school basketball provides. When you add that plus most of the games being played at the classic Oklahoma State Fair Arena, aka "The Big House," then the reality is that there almost isn't a better atmosphere for a rabid sports fan. Even my mom, grandma and aunts hole up in a hotel in Oklahoma City for a week to catch all the action. Now that's madness!

Madness, it seems, is the theme for the month of March and this year will be no different. 4 Love of the Game organization will be putting on their annual all-Indian hoops blow-out, March Madness, for the fourth consecutive year. It is truly a blessing to have this tournament in Henryetta, right in the heart of Creek country, as it is one of the nation's premier showcases of high school basketball talent. Each game is highly competitive and there are several future and current college players that have competed in the annual event. But it's not the talent and competition that set this event apart, it's the opportunity. Unlike other tournaments, where basketball is the sole purpose, this one concentrates on the importance of the future of our youth. There is a college career day to open the festivities and scholarships are awarded on the tournament's last day. The "4" in 4 Love of the Game stands for the four men who founded the organization in hopes of providing opportunity to Native American youth. They have done that, and the Creek Nation should be awfully proud of these citizens.



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ATHLETEWATCH



MINDY CHANCEY
Weleetka, OK
University of Central Arkansas
Conway, Arkansas
Women's Softball
Freshman - Infielder
UCA @ OU 3/28 at 6 p.m.
UCA @ OSU 4/4 at 5 p.m.
UCA @ Tulsa 4/4 at 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.



MISTY HALEY
Oktaha, OK
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M
Miami, Oklahoma
Women's Basketball
Freshman - Guard
NEO @ EOSC 2/19 at 6 p.m.



SANDRA SMITH
Tulsa, OK
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR
Sophomore - Infielder
UA @ OU 2/28 at 3 p.m.
UA @ OSU 3/39 at 7 p.m.



ANDREW BEVENUE
Okmulgee, OK
University of Arkansas Ft. Smith
Fort Smith, AR
Freshman - Pitcher
UAFS @ Carl Albert 3/25 at 2 p.m.
UAFS @ Connors 3/28 at 7 p.m.
UAFS @ Connors 3/31 at 1 p.m.
UAFS @ EOSC 4/25 at 3 p.m.

Creek athlete signs on to play baseball at Coffeyville Community College

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

GLENPOOL— Another Creek athlete has done it again. Jordan Monday, standout baseball and football player at Glenpool High School, has signed on to play baseball at Coffeyville Community College in Coffeyville, Kansas.

For Monday, the circle becomes full, as he's had the constant support of his family and friends along the way. Especially from his grandfather, James Proctor.

Proctor has seen his grandson grow into quite an athlete. He has had plenty of opportunities to express his pride to this staff. Proctor serves as a security guard at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex and is a member of Tullahassee Ceremonial Ground.

Monday at one time considered playing college football, not baseball. He was off to a stellar career in the fall as the senior wide receiver was one of the leading receivers on his team. Then a knee injury blew out any opportunities of playing further. But it was always baseball that was closest to Monday's heart.

Monday took a visit to Coffeyville last month and immediately liked what he saw. "They have a great facility there and I like the history the college has," said Monday, who after visiting, quickly made his decision about playing baseball there. Monday was also impressed with the way the overall structure of the baseball administration is set up. All under the leadership of Coffeyville Ravens Head Baseball Coach Ryan McCune.



"At the college, I like the fact that Coach McCune runs it like a family oriented program and we are all like brothers there. I just knew that was the spot for me when he preached about that."

The family philosophy is something that Coach McCune has always believed in, and in Monday, he saw those same values as well as good

baseball discipline. "Well, Jordan has a great left arm and a big-time breaking ball," says McCune. "And I think he is a great athlete." But McCune is a college coach, and mentors at the next level are looking to develop potential stars. "I know there's something deeper inside Jordan and that is what we hope to develop. He's been clocked at pitching

88 mph and for a left-hander, that's pretty good, his arms flows free and easy and we think there's more in the tank." But one other thing McCune is the athlete's overall disposition and he feels Jordan is a winner. "He's a good kid, he's a quiet kid and I think he is going to fit in great with what we need next year."

All-Indian March Madness Tournament showcases future stars

Jenna Plumley, a three year participant, now stars for the University of Oklahoma Lady Sooners

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

HENRYETTA — About four years ago, a tournament was started in Dewar, Oklahoma with the goal being to spotlight the best Native American basketball talent in Oklahoma. At least that was the first idea, then the dream became a little larger. Why not spotlight the best Native American basketball talent in the country?

The desire was to still hold it in the tiny town of Dewar. One reason was because of accommodations being convenient and available, another may not have been seen until much later in a symbolic way. Like most sports, basketball has humble beginnings. From the first time a peach basket was nailed to the wall, a leather ball was hit by a stick in a pasture, or two men fought in a back lot to see who was the best, many of the most endeared and enjoyed games were born as nothing special, but grew to be great. So when talented athletes come together on the basketball court in the spirit of competition, after the game has begun and all the hype and style has passed, it just comes down to the game. Two points still count the same on any basketball court, whether its in the glamorous crib of the Staples Center in Los Angeles, the historic home in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, or the quiet country surroundings of Dewar.

What month would be most appropriate to hold such a unique and prestigious tournament? September, its football month, November, too early, maybe later in the year like May. Too late and everyone is getting ready to get outdoors. The most logical month is March, the month that describes one of its days as "The Ides" is the right time of the year, winter is gone, but spring is not fully arrived. Besides, what month best sounds good with the word madness. A term created in the decade of the eighties to describe the NCAA tournament, March

Madness. This time Native American style. The month was set, the name was in place, now all was needed was the players. The players did come, from All-Star Jenna Plumley, who came from the small community of Red Rock and Frontier High School. Plumley played in the inaugural tournament and left her mark throughout the seeding bracket.

The competition Plumley faced at the first March Madness tournament certainly didn't hurt her game preparations down the road. Today, Plumley is the freshmen everyone is talking about at the University of Oklahoma. She is contributing greatly to the Lady Sooners basketball team and their national rankings.

Most recently the tournament has grown and has even moved on to another location, the larger gymnasium in Henryetta. This was to accommodate growing attendance because the fans and the talent level comes from all over. They come from Arizona, Idaho, Kansas, Iowa, Texas, Mississippi and right here in Oklahoma. All eyes are turned now to basketball wonder woman Angel Goodrich and her exploits as a member of the Tahlequah-Sequoyah Lady Indians. Goodrich has the Lady Indians in the national spotlight in such publications as Sports Illustrated. She is a three-year veteran of the March Madness Tournament and plans on being back again.

Goodrich will most certainly go on to play at a college somewhere, maybe even in-state. With Plumley at OU and Goodrich playing college ball, the competition will surely continue. Competition that all started at the All-Indian March Madness Tournament. Who will it be this year? Find out in March.

For more information or to enter a team, call (918) 650-3920, (918) 289-9211 or visit www.4loveofthegame.org to download an entry form.

SHOP TALK with GERALD

Well, it looks as though after a few months that 'Shop Talk' has been resurrected and its good to be back.

Seems as though there is a lot of good things happening in Indian country these days, especially in the wide world of sports.

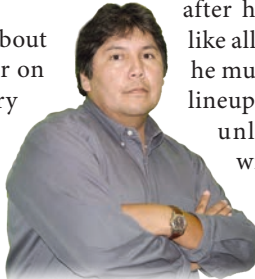
So we'll talk a little about it, just like my co-hort over on the next page does, and try to give you our perspective on things.

I know Oklahoma fans had a dose of good and bad over the bowl season. Bad for the Sooners, good for the Cowboys, so we have to say congratulations to Oklahoma State. To say you defeated a program with the history of the Alabama Crimson Tide is something to be proud of. In spite of their dramatic win, the Cowboys exhibited class and grace after the game. A reflection of their Coach Mike Gundy, not the first time an Oklahoma team has shown this attitude toward an SEC team.

In 1964, the Crimson Tide shut out the Sooners by a score of 17-0 in the Blue Bonnet Bowl. After the game, bama coach Paul 'Bear' Bryant was truly proud of his accomplishment of beating a strong Oklahoma team by such a score.

Oklahoma had dominated the decade of the fifties with three National Championships, while Bama was making its mark in the sixties and would finish the ten year mark with 3 Championships of their own. This part of the Oklahoma football era was still being led by Head Coach Bud Wilkinson.

After the game, Bryant was in the locker room admist a loud and excited crowd. To Bryant's surprise, in walks Wilkinson who walked straight toward Bryant. Bryant was prepared to verbally give Wilkinson an "I told you so". To Bryant's surprise, Wilkinson shook Bryant's hand and then went to each player in the Bama locker room and told them what a great game each had played. Bryant was taken back and admitted later that the graceful gesture made him a better coach-in winning and losing.



GERALD WOFFORD
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Speaking of winning, congratulation go out to Josh LeadingFox of the University of Central Oklahoma.

The wrestling standout who garnered All-American status at the Division II school is back in business after healing a broken hand. But like all true sports responsibilities, he must earn his place back in the lineup. No spot is given or assured unless earned, especially in wrestling. But Coaches know if this Native American senior works his way back in the lineup, he will definitely be on the hunt for a National title. for a banner season.

This writer has had the opportunity to attend many of the local boxing matches happening around the state. It seems more and more Native American fighters are beginning to get noticed, fighters like Jonation Nelson, Mike Cooper, even fighters like Jason Nicholson who bills himself as the 'Native American Nightmare' operate a successful promotional fight business. Nelson calls himself the 'Choctaw Warrior'. What's interesting to note is that the previous decade saw the marriage between professional fighting and Native American Casinos hosting them. In the Oklahoma fight scene, fans were treated to boxer B.J. Waggner who was known as the "Creek Warrior," back then. Waggner began to build up quite a following before retiring. A fighter most of his life, Waggner in a way helped usher in this relationship of professional casino boxing at the local level. Fighting many of his matches at the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino, will there be another "Creek Warrior?"

Closer to the capital, the Okmulgee County Tournament just wrapped up and the opportunities to see Muscogee (Creek) athletes shine on the hardwood was consistent as it has been every year.

Speaking of those great Creek athletes, you can help us out by giving us the word on all those great Creek athletes that you know of, they can't shine unless you help us make them shine so let us know whats happening in the Creek sports world. Happy trails to all.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should more teams resort to trick plays in football?

GERALD WOFFORD

Absolutely, the excitement of trick plays that are called out of the ordinary help to bring a unique style to college football.

I mean to play the same type of game each time would only make the game boring. What if Boise State only ran 3 yards and a cloud of dust each time they got the ball?

Oh no! 3rd down and 9, lets try a pass now, no one

will ever know its coming. Besides, old 'trick' plays is what can actually help a team that is not favored to actually have a chance.

It also exposes great defenses in a way to prove if they really are that great. Yeah, they can handle an off tackle play, but how do they actually react to something new and unique.

JASON SALSMAN

I really don't think so. Call me stubborn, hard-headed or even (gulp) old school! To me it's a football game, not Ringling Bros. and Barnum Bailey Circus. To have a team run trick plays on you, they're basically saying "hey, we're not good enough to line up with you guys man to man, so we'll just resort to a bag of tricks." I mean, that is so against what the game of football is

all about. What kind of satisfaction can you take out of that? Sure, it levels the playing field and all, but why do we ALWAYS have to see the underdog overcome? Yes, I watched Boise State's win in the Fiesta Bowl and they are a very good football team. I just wish they had brought helmets instead of balloon animals.



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SECTION C - THE SCENE

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JASON Salsman
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ANNUAL CEREMONIAL GROUNDS MEETING

The Fourth Annual Ceremonial Grounds/Mekko meeting will be held on April 7, 2007 in the Mound Auditorium at 10 a.m.

These meetings were initially setup by Chief A.D. Ellis to open doors of communication between the Nation and the Grounds. A formal invitation is extended to the Grounds/Mekkos and two guests.



For more information about the meeting, contact the Office of the Principal Chief at (918) 732-7604.

JOM hosts annual career day for middle school students

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM Program was host to over 500 middle school students at their 4th Annual Career Day. Tribal employees, as well as non-tribal employees and businesses, participated in the event. "We target this particular age group because we feel they are impressionable and very receptive to the message we convey," said Virginia Thomas, JOM Manager. "We also use as many Native American professions as we can so both can easily relate to each other." The students were urged to ask the presenters why they chose their respected professions and what type of training and education was necessary in order to succeed in their career.



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis expressed to the middle school students in attendance the importance of wisely choosing a profession and to focus all your energy toward that profession once you make your decision.

STARLA BUSH/MNN

Tobacco program continues advocacy youth campaign

- 1,200 Americans die every single day as a result of commercial tobacco abuse

by Marcus W. Proctor
TPP Program Specialist

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program (TPP) is entering its second year of the "Kick Butts Day" (KBD) campaign. KBD is the campaign for tobacco-free kids annual celebration of youth advocacy, leadership and activism.

The event reminds our citizens and the general public in a very real way that 1,200 Americans die every single day as a result of commercial tobacco abuse. Youth from around the country will join the Muscogee (Creek) Nation youth in showing communities why youth empowerment and youth activism is so important in this fight to save lives.

KBD utilizes Mr. Butts, a big tobacco icon, as the basis for the campaign. A trial has been set for Butts, who was charged with targeting unsuspecting Muscogee

Nation youth. Commercial tobacco abuse kills Native Americans every year. He is also charged with using Native American imagery to sell their deadly products, addicting millions more, and causing many deadly diseases for children and elders.

After several months of surveillance, Mr. Butts, whose first name is See More, was caught speaking to the Muscogee Youth at various sporting events. Witnesses overheard the

conversation and told reporters he was telling the youth, "Our company was established in the southwest with the mission of getting rich by providing the world with addictive and deadly products. We thought it would be strategic to make cigarettes with no additives and market them to the unsuspecting Muscogee youth as a better and healthier alternative to ordinary cigarettes.



Mr. Butts also talked about how the claiming their cigarettes are actually healthy has increased sales over the years. "Our cigarettes are 100% additive-free and made from organic tobacco. Marketing our product this way is just another way to get to you dumb Muscogee people to buy and smoke lots of cigarettes. Your belief that our cigarettes are actually a healthier alternative has allowed us to make billions of dollars over the years from your tribal smoke shops. And, the big old picture of that Muscogee Chief on the carton is to remind you that smoking cigarettes is traditional!"

Everyone is invited to come witness the Muscogee (Creek) Nation youth as they try, convict, and sentence Mr. Butts at the Tribal Court located in the Tribal Mound Building on March 28, 2007 at 1 p.m.

Tribe begins construction on Veterans Affairs Building

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Crestline Contractors have began construction on a pentagon shaped structure for the Muscogee (Creek) Nations Veterans' Affairs and Museum Building. The new building is set to have its grand opening on July 12 at 7:30 a.m.

With the building being shaped like a pentagon, its already being called "pentagon west" because its the only pentagon west of the Mississippi.

"This building is a monument to Muscogee Veterans, and has been bought with blood sweat and tears of our Muscogee

Veterans," said Ken Davis, Director of Veterans Affairs.

The building will be made up of five different wings. The first wing, which will be the main entrance, will be dedicated to the offices and the other four wings will be a museum and display areas for recognizing Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard.

"Our Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and our National Council have been tremendously supportive not only of our new building, but the Veterans Program as a whole," said Davis.



Departments continue to seek current addresses

by Claude Sumner
Executive Director

OKMULGEE — Election Board, Citizenship Board, Communications Department and other offices are seeking current addresses for Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens so their office functions can be more complete and accurate.

Voters need to verify the currency of their address so they may receive ballots or notices of elections, especially in 2007, which is an election year. Communications Department seeks current addresses to ensure citizens receive current copies of the Nation's newspaper. Citizenship Board seeks current addresses to ensure its operations has current information for all purposes

This article is to inspire citizens to verify the accuracy of their contact information (addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail address) with departments where they conduct business. Citizens are also encouraged to keep the Citizenship Department informed of deaths in Muscogee (Creek) Nation families so their records are kept current.

Contacts for change of address forms or information are: Citizenship office (918) 732-7941; Election office (918) 732-7684; Communications (918) 732-7720. There is not yet a central database for addresses, so changes need to be conveyed to each individual department.

Letters to the Editor: *Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.*

Sports fan thanks Communication manager and staff for good quality photos

Editor:
I would like to thank each and everyone who had a part in making this years, Okmulgee County Basketball Tournament possible. It gives us a chance to see all our county teams and meet new fans and see old fans.
I would like to especially thank Lucas Taylor and group with the Creek Nation photography for their continued support. The quality and variety of their photos and action shots are simply wonderful. While I no longer have children of my own on the court. I've seen and appreciate their dedication and effort to capture these moments in time.
Please accept my thanks for this delightful service you provide. Thank you.
Sue Chisum, Henryretta

Tribal citizen thanks Council for disaster relief monies

Editor:
Disaster relief monies that was given by the National Council. We were able to go to Eufaula on Jan. 22 – 26, 2007. Working with another team, we were able to help approximately 80 homes during the week.
We were able to help one of the churches, West Eufaula Baptist. The team consisted of Fred Lindsey, Willie Pigeon, Joe & John Paul Coon and L.C. Franks.
Thanks for the help that the National Council gave to us.
L.C. Franks, Holdenville
Men's Ministry Director

Man searches for Aunt

Editor:
My name is Kirk R. Francis, currently I am incarcerated at Jim Himelton Correctional Center. Also, I am a member of the Creek Na-

tion.
I have an aunt who I haven't seen but twice and I've been trying to find her. She was living in the Oktaha area. I think. I would really like to find her. My discharge date is sometime in July and I would be grateful for any help or just a pen pal.
My aunts name is Francince, her maiden name would be Francis. I don't know what her name is now. Thank you
Kirk R. Francis #381766
JEHCC
53468 Mineral Springs Road
Hodgen, OK 74939

A.C.C.E.S. Indian club thanks the Chief and Council for their support

Editor:
I hope these words find you happy, healthy and surrounded by the greatest of spirits. I wish you the luck of the redbird.
We would like to say that the support goes a long way. It is such a blessing and we would like to thank you from our hearts. As Mvskoke people we are so grateful, words cannot express how this money serves as such a great retention tool. Our Mvskoke students are graduating and going on to other Universities and securing jobs in mainstream society.
We say a great big Mvto to our Great Principal Chief, A.D. Ellis and our outstanding Council members for their belief and understanding in the plight of college students. We especially send our gratitude to Mr. Robert Jones. We appreciate all of you, Mvto!
Mark J. Randolph, Lawrence, KS
A.C.C.E.S. Sponsor

Citizen would like to give kudos to a job well done

Editor:
Many Creek citizens suffered much during the recent ice-storms, also many were lucky

and missed having damages altogether. The business of the tribe had to take a backseat to Mother Nature, but even as everything came to a screeching halt, a small segment of the tribal employees were at work every day of this tragedy. This segment of the tribal workforce does not get the kudos for doing their jobs daily, but when they don't the public notices. They work 24/7 to serve and protect us without complaint. I want to take this moment to applaud the various departments of the GSA, Lighthorse and the Health System who put others before themselves. This is what makes Mvskokvlke great. Our ancestors worked for the good of the whole and is our reason for being here today. Mvto Cekicis ci!
Ted Isham, Creek citizen
Okmulgee, OK

Citizen searches for genealogy information

Editor:
My name is Eric Lynch. I am a retired history instructor and independent researcher. I am assisting my mother, Geraldine Lynch now 78 unearth the missing pages in our family genealogy. Many of our relatives who had a wealth of pertinent information, but were reluctant to share the family history are now deceased. Therefore, we are hoping that by presenting this article in your paper, someone within the Creek Nation and Oklahoma community may be able to provide us with some necessary information.
Her are some facts that will shed some light on our family. According to my mother's aunt Georgie Mae Taylor Perryman, Geraldine's father was Bowman Childless. Her mother was Lucille (Lucile) Marie Taylor (1904-1994). Their relationship took place sometime around 1927. From that union, my mother was born in 1928. During her short stay in Coweta, OK she was known as "Gerline." Also, aunt Georgie lived

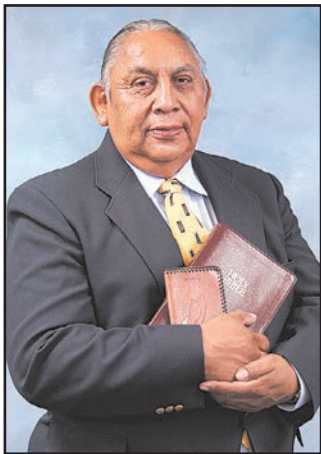
next door to Viola (Lizzie) and Mosa (Uncle Goodie) Childless. Georgie was married to Dave (Sabbie) William at that time.
Now, according to my mother, aunt Georgie kept all family information a secret. It was not until some years later that these facts were revealed. In addition, the person my mother was led to believe was her father (Andrew Ford) indicated that he was not. This was not disclosed until his death recently.
Through listening to old stories and searching through family documents, my mother knows that her mother was born and raised in Coweta, OK. She worked in Tulsa from 1928 to 1937. During this period, she lived with her mother (Rosa Taylor). Around April, 1937 she moved to Los Angeles, California. Sometime in July, her children (Raymond, Earlie May and Gerline) joined her. Prior to that, my mother stayed with her aunt Nattie from April, 1936 until July, 1937.
In 1941 my grandmother met Daniel Sanders, an army mess sergeant stationed at March Air Force Base. Lucille and her children moved to San Bernardino, California in 1942. They would remain there while my step-grandfather served in the North African, Sicily and Italian campaigns. In the spring of 1945, they married. My grandfather was always called "grandpa Pon". He was half creek and originated from Beggs, OK. After the war, the family moved back to Los Angeles and lived there for 47 years. My grandfather passed in 1988. My grandmother moved to Phoenix, Arizona in July, 1992 to live with my mother until her death in 1994. She was 90 at the time. Her two older children preceded her in death.
My mother's aunts and uncles were Pearl Taylor Tucker of Coweta, born 1899 at Ft. Smith on the Arkansas River bank. Harry C. Taylor, Vinita, OK (1900-1962), Georgie Mae Taylor Perryman, Los Angeles, CA (1907-1998), and Herman Grant Taylor, Los Angeles, CA (1911-1981). All of them were born in Coweta, OK.

My mother's grandparents were Rosa Grayson Taylor (1865-1937) and William Taylor (1866-1932). She was full-blooded Creek and from Coweta, OK. Some records indicate that she was from Lochapoka. He was from Illinois and of Irish ancestry. They lived in Coweta until their deaths.
My mother's great-grandparents were Mary Marshall (full-blood Creek) and Henry Grayson (full-blood Chickasaw). They died in 1921 respectfully. According to some documents, Mary was originally from Lochopoka. Both had lived in or around Broken Arrow and Coweta as adults. Mary and Henry's children were Henry, Pete, Jim, Willie, Ben, Minnie, Rosa, and Lilly Ally Grayson.
Currently, my mother and her Uncle Herman's daughter (Tina) are the only remaining members of that family. Georgie Taylor had a son, and is deceased. Pearl and Harry had no children. Lilly Grayson had a daughter, Nattie Walker. Nattie had no children.
Here are some questions my mother would like answer: What is the birth place, and date of birth for Mary Marshall Grayson, Henry Grayson, and Rosa Grayson Taylor? Who is William (Will) Taylor, what is his birth place, date of birth, and profession? Is aunt Georgie's information on Bowman Childless correct? Does anyone have information on Bowman and Elwood Childless? Are there any additional relatives from the Grayson, Childless, and Taylor clans?
My mother has four sons, one daughter, six grandsons, one granddaughter, and eight great-grandchildren.
Finally, if anyone has any information regarding our family members, please forward that to Geraldine Lynch, 9021 W. Clarendon Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85037.
We thank you in advance for any assistance that may be provided. We are trying to fill in some of the blanks spaces, and complete our family genealogy.

Second Opinion

Submitted on March 2, 2007

I wish to thank all who came and assisted with the Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church's 100th Anniversary and Memorial for Rev. Togo Berryhill. It was a great success.
The following is an excerpt from the Forty-Second Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology To the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution 1924-1925 by J. Walter Fewkes, Chief with Accompanying Papers of Social Organization and Social Usages of the Indians of the Creek Confederacy by John R. Swanton:
The "Knowers"
The principal individuals who combined medical and priestly functions were the kilas or "knowers," usually called by the whites "prophets," and the priests or doctors proper, known as alektca, or medicine makers, hili-shaya. There were only a few of the former and they are said always to have been men, but the second were more numerous, and had more to do directly with healing. While the kila might also be a good doctor his work in that line was generally confined to a determination of the kind of disease with which the



Second Chief Berryhill

sick person was afflicted. (86) {The people of Tukabahchee and neighboring towns believed that Megillis Hadjo [miko hills hadjo?], the prophet of Tukabahchee, met by Hitchcock in 1842, had control over the elements and could make the weather pleasant or disagreeable. They thought he could see into the future and predict events, and in cases of sickness he was frequently called upon to divine and to define the cause. – Hitchcock, Ms. notes.} He might best be described as the diagnostician, though his diagnosis consisted merely in the examination of an article of clothing belonging to the sick man. From this he claimed to be able to determine the nature of the disorder and he sent back word accordingly. Of course, many doctors, partly from having seen so many cases diagnosed by the kila, would be so expert that they would not ordinarily need to refer to him. The kila was something of a clairvoyant and probably a juggler also, and about this class many wonderful tales are told. It was thought that the younger of twins was likely to make an efficient kila. Natchez and Cherokee informants stated that twins would leave them, but if they were 8 or 10 years old, when the gift would leave them, but if they were carefully watched they would become prophets when

they grew up. My Cherokee interpreter had a brother and sister who were twins. His father, a man often outlawed, said that they frequently warned him of impending trouble. It was thought that triplets might know still more. In one case triplets told their father, who had been acquitted several times before the courts, that the next time he would be hung, and in consequence he took good care to keep out of trouble. It was the kila who learned events from birds as narrated on page 496. He could foretell death, sickness, or crime, and in the last case he would sometimes send his dogs to punish the offenders.
It is asserted that a prophet could tell a person where to find a stolen horse; could shorten a road, making it draw together as if it were made of rubber; could make beads, finger rings, or bullets swim on the surface of the water; could throw a bead into the middle of a stream, make it swim toward shore, and cause another bead to swim out to meet it. He could determine whether a person's life was to be long or short by setting up a stake and making another object move toward it "by his power." If this reached the stake, the person's life would be long: if it fell short of it his lie would be short.
Near Yahola station, on the Midland Valley Railroad, lived an old kila from whom the station derived its name. He had cleared out spaces around his house said to represent the square grounds of the different Creek towns (pl. 13, c).
The Texas Alabama tell of a prophet

who stopped rain by fasting and putting medicine on the water of a creek. Another stopped a storm which was brought on when his companion shot a buzzard, mistaking it for a turkey. However, a prophet among the people on the water made it rain, thereby putting out the fires, and enabling them to get through the lines of their enemy. Still another prophet brought on rain in the following manner. He sent a boy out to catch fish, and when they were brought he dived with them to the bottom of a creek and gave them to certain long, horned snakes living there which go under both the water and the land. These snakes are called in Alabama tcinto saktco and have been described on page 494. Then these snakes made the rain fall. More often, however, rain making is ascribed to a separate set of rain makers.
Although he confounds knowers and shamans, it must be the former to whom Bossu refers in the following words:
"The savages have much confidence in their medicine men; the cabin of the jugglers (jongleur) is covered with skins which serve him as a covering or clothing. He enters it entirely naked and begins to pronounce some words which none understands: it is, says he, to invoke the spirit; after which after which he rises, cries, is agitated, appears beside himself, and water pours from all parts of his body.
"The cabin shakes, and those present think that it is the presence of the Spirit; the language which he speaks in these invocations has nothing in common with the language of the savages; it is only through a heated imagi-

nation that these charlatans have found the that these charlatans have found the means of making it pass for a divine language, it is thus in all times that the most clever have duped the others."(87) {Bossu, Nouv. Voy., vol. II, p. 58 note.}
Until the next time, God bless you and keep you. MVTO, hvtvm cehecares.



Muscogee Nation News
November 2006

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is **the third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court Filings for February 2007

Civil: Mattye Harrison v. MCN Casino & Video Technology Royal Finance v. Deborah Dodge Ricky Lindsey v. Jody Taylor		Petition Small Claims Petition
Divorce: Rose Josie v. Rodney Josie		Divorce
Criminal Felonies: MCN v. Diana Camp MCN v. Casey Murphy		Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia Ct. 1: Possession of Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia Ct. 3: Resisting Arrest
Criminal Misdemeanors: MCN v. Bobby Laughlin MCN v. Kimberly Gibson		Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land Ct.2: Public Intoxication Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct Public Intoxication Public Intoxication Possession of Illegal Drug Possession of Alcohol No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance Expired Tag DUS DUS DUS
MCN v. Andrew Locust MCN v. Norman Asbury MCN v. Max Ernst MCN v. Sonia Horner MCN v. Rita Bennett MCN v. Ella Gilbreath MCN v. Ella Gilbreath MCN v. Stephen Kinnamon MCN v. Robby Russell MCN v. Ian Lawrence MCN v. Michael Parks		MCN v. Frank Oss MCN v. Frank Oss MCN v. Frank Oss MCN v. Jesse Graham

MCN v. Billy Boling MCN v. Tyler Lewis MCN v. Terry Letch MCN v. James Johnston MCN v. Kendra Threet MCN v. Michael Bledsoe MCN v. Robert Siglar MCN v. Robert Siglar MCN v. Robert Siglar MCN v. Brian Russell MCN v. Brian Russell MCN v. Brian Russell MCN v. Heather Orms MCN v. Heather Orms MCN v. Daniel Posey MCN v. Daniel Posey MCN v. David Martin MCN v. David Martin MCN v. Rodney Cookson MCN v. Rodney Cookson MCN v. Joshua Peters MCN v. Cheryl Henry MCN v. Cheryl Henry MCN v. Zachery Snow MCN v. Zachery Snow MCN v. Zachery Snow	DUS DUS DUS DUS Expired Tag DUS Expired Tag DUS No Insurance Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct Expired Tag No Insurance No Insurance Invalid DL Invalid DL Invalid DL Disorderly Conduct No Insurance Expired Tag DUS No Insurance Poss, Of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia Expired Tag No Insurance DUS Expired Tag
SEE DISTRICT COURT - B 7	

Editor's Note:
The Sharon Harris listed in the February District Court Filings is not the Sharon Harris, secretary of the Twin Hills Indian Community.

From the desk of the Speaker

HE(N)SCI !!!
Spring is once again just around the corner and the Wild Onion Diners will be plentiful at our churches and communities and I look forward to attending as many as possible. In addition, the annual March Madness will begin on March 21st in Henryetta as high school Native athletes from various states are represented. Different activities and college scholarships are awarded and it's always a rewarding time for participants and spectators alike.



Tiger

Our monthly National Council meeting was held on February 24th and some of the legislation passed includes the following.

NCA 07-002, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the completion of the Eufaula Casino renovations project and the construction of an elderly nutrition center. The amount of the appropriation was \$610,802.43. Sponsor of the legislation was McIntosh District Representative Tom Pickering and co-sponsors being Thomas McIntosh and Anthony Notaro. Legislation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

NCA 07-036, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Social Services burial assistance program. The amount of the appropriation was \$315,000.00. Sponsor of the legislation was Tulsa District Representative Paula Willits. Legislation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

NCA 07-037, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the Social Services emergency hardship program. The amount of the appropriation was \$200,000.00. Sponsor of the legislation was Tulsa District Representative Paula Willits. Legislation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

NCA 07-038, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the social services low income energy assistance program. Sponsor of the legislation was Tulsa District Representative Paula Willits. Legislation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

NCA 07-045, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation for the continuance of services in the Tulsa area, Southeastern Oklahoma and central Oklahoma chapters of the American Red Cross. The amount of the appropriation was \$75,000.00. The sponsor of the legislation was Muskogee District Representative Pete Beaver. Co-sponsors were Muskogee District Representative Eddie LaGrone and Wagoner District Representative Johnnie Green. The legislation was adopted by a vote of 23 in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention.

NCA 07-052, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Muskogee (Creek) Nation employment and training college work experience program. The amount of the appropriation was \$42,052.00. The sponsor of the legislation was McIntosh District Representative Tom Pickering. The legislation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

NCA 07-055, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the Hanna Indian Community Phase 1 Farm Project. The amount of the appropriation was \$117,380.00. The sponsor of the legislation was McIntosh District Representative Tom Pickering. Co-sponsors are McIntosh District Representatives Thomas McIntosh and Anthony Notaro. Legislation was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for March 31st and as always all meetings of the National Council is open to everyone.

Once again thank you for your words of encouragement and until next time MVTO!

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE JANUARY 18, EMERGENCY SESSION.

JAN. 18, EMERGENCY SESSION
ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **THOMAS McINTOSH, ROBERT JONES, BO JOHNSON, LARRY BIBLE, CHERRAH QUIETT, PAULA WILLITS AND RICHARD BERRYHILL.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
REPRESENTATIVE **BO JOHNSON** ARRIVED BEFORE VOTE COUNT WAS TAKE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-0-0) NCA 07-031, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**; Co-SPONSOR: **R. CLEGHORN** (300,000.00).

DEC. 16, REGULAR SESSION
ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **THOMAS McINTOSH, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, LARRY BIBLE, CHERRAH QUIETT, AND PAULA WILLITS .**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED (19-0-0) NCR 07-002, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL DECLARING A NATIONAL STATE OF EMERGENCY WITHIN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**; Co-SPONSOR: **E. LaGRONE**;

• APPROVED (19-0-0) TR 07-011, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DECLARING A NATIONAL STATE OF EMERGENCY WITHIN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**; Co-SPONSOR: **E. LaGRONE**.

Tukvpytce Rep. **Sylvanna Caldwell** was in attendance for the Dec. 16, 2006 regular session.

Legislative Highlights:

by Rita Williams

During the February Regular Session their was sixteen (16) Special Appropriations Legislation on the Agenda in the total amount of \$1,958,253.40.

Four of the Special Appropriations came out of the Office of The Principal Chief. Three bills to supplement the Social Services programs, Burial Assistance in the amount of \$315,000, Emergency hardship Program, \$200,000, and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in the amount of \$200,000. The other piece of Legislation was to supplement the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training College Work Experience Program in the amount of \$42,052.

Thirteen Special Appropriations Legislation was introduced by National Council Representatives.

LEGISLATION FAILED:

NCA-07-016 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO HELP SPONSOR THE 2007 "REACH THE REZ" PROJECT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000. Introduced by Anthony Notaro, The bill was killed on the floor, 17 in favor, 8 against.

The other bill killed on the floor was NCA-07-030 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TULSA LIBRARY TRUST AS PLEDGED IN TR 06-052 FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FIREPLACE LOUNGE AND THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHILDREN'S STORYTIME AREA OF THE HERMAN AND KATE KAISER LIBRARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$162,000. Introduced by Cherrah Quiett. To kill, 14 in favor and 11 against.

LEGISLATION PASSED:

NCA-07-002 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE EUFAULA CASINO RENOVATIONS PROJECT AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ELDERLY NUTRITION CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$610,802.43. Introduced by Tom Pickering.

NCA-07-045 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF SERVICES IN THE TULSA AREA, SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA AND CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,000. Introduced by Pete Beaver

NCA-07-046 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT INDN'S LIST IN ADVOCATING FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND FOR NATIVE AMERICANS AS A WHOLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 Introduced by Cherrah Quiett.

NCA-07-048 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 17TH ANNUAL TRAIL OF HOPE NATIVE AMERICAN AAA SOBRIETY CONFERENCE ON MARCH 23-25, 2007 IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1500. Introduced by Sam Alexander.

NCA-07-049 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO STIDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL TO CONSTRUCT A WALKING TRAIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000. Introduced by Thomas McIntosh.

NCA-07-050 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION

Council members attend the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Reception

Pictured, from left to right, are Tukvpytce District Representative Sylvanna Caldwell, Comanche Chairman Wallace Coffey, Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind, Choctaw Speaker of the House, Mike Amos, Speaker of the House, George Tiger, State Representative Chuck Hoskins, and McIntosh District Representative Tom Pickering

photo by Rita Williams



Former councilman wins Okmulgee District County Commissioner

The Muskogee (Creek) National Council supported candidate Robert "Bobby" Hardridge for Okmulgee County Commis-

sioner. He won his election in the General election, February 10, 2007. Bobby Hardridge is a Muskogee (Creek) Citizen and former National Council

Representative. The National Council believes it is in the best interest of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation to support Native American and non-

Indian candidates who will work with Tribal Governments to understand Tribal Sovereignty and Tribal Issues. Second Speaker



Okmulgee District Representative James Jennings congratulates Bobby Hardridge on the night of his victory.

tion of both governments we can work together to provide services for the best interest of the county."

Roger Barnett said, "The National Council is excited about Bobbys victory and to see one of our Muskogee (Creek) citizens come out on top makes us especially proud. With the coopera-

TION TO BIG ARBOR INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 15- PASSENGER VAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,272.00. Introduced by Thomas McIntosh.

NCA 07-051 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE-SEMINOLE-WICHITA INDIAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,796.00. Introduced by Shirlene Ade.

NCA 07-054 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO CHECOTAH HIGH SCHOOL LADYCATS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR THE BEDOUIN SHRINE TRANSPORTATION FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,301.00. Introduced by Pete Beaver.

NCA 07-056 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,150.00. Introduced by Tom Pickering.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONVENES EMERGENCY SESSION

On Tuesday, February 20, 2007 the Muskogee (Creek) National Council convened an emergency session to address five separate bills that passed, they are as follows;

TR 07-021 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OPPOSING OKLAHOMA HOUSE BILL 1423, OKLAHOMA SENATE BILL 38 AND ANY OTHER LEGISLATION OFFICIALIZING ENGLISH AS THE LANGUAGE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

TR-024 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)

Native Vote United Award presented to Muskogee Elderly nutrition program

Rita Williams, NCAI 2006 Eastern Oklahoma State Lead Coordinator of Native Vote United, presented a certificate of appreciation to the Muskogee Elderly Nutrition program for their participation in having the largest turnout of getting the vote out during the primary elections in November 2006. Shawn Long, Head Cook of the Muskogee Creek Nation Elderly Nutrition Program accepted on behalf of the program. She was also instrumental in encouraging and reminding the seniors to go vote. The center reported a total number of 116 seniors, including congregate and homebound, went to the polls on election day. photo by Kristie Harjo



Tribal Council members present check to Murrow

In January's Regular Session the National Council unanimously approved legislation to give \$100,000 to the Murrow Indian Children's Home. The home has been caring for Native children soon after the Civil War and has recently suffered financial support. Creek District Representative Duke Harjo immediately began legislation to financially assist this home. Representative Harjo has a heart connection and deep interest in Murrow home as he and his four brothers were once children of this home for five years. As Duke visited the old orphanage which is now Bacone's Administration he reminisced and talked about his experience, his teachers, the friends he made and of course the funny things that happened during his time at the Murrow Indian Orphanage Home, as it was called then. Walking along the halls Duke took us to his old room, which is now office space, and also showed us where his brothers roomed. "They made us do chores and my job was to mop the

sun room, as it was called then. He pointed to the red tile floor that is still the same and said. "I thought this was such a hard job, of course I was small then."

Representative Harjo has everything good to say about the Murrow Indian Children's Home. "We as small children had no where else to go. This home was good to us, we had three hot meals a day, a hot shower, went to school and church, they taught us responsibility, we were all treated the same, and we had a roof over our head. I look back now and think, we were lucky. There are children living today that still don't have this luxury."

In 1956 property was exchanged with Bacone College and three cottages were constructed near the intersection of highways 16 and 62 in Muskogee. In 1965, a fourth cottage was built along with an administration building. Each cottage can accommodate 10 children, plus cottage parents. The children are no longer "orphans" but dependent, neglected

one, who are sent to live at Murrow Home by courts and social agencies. Today there are

sixteen (16) Creeks and six (6) Cheyenne and Arapahos living at the home.



Left to right: Muskogee District Representative Pete Beaver, Executive Director Joan Brown, Creek District Representative Duke Harjo and Muskogee District Representative Eddie LaGrone.

photo by Rita Williams

TulsaPromotions



Tulsa • 81st & Riverside
www.creeknationcasino.com

CASINO PROMOTIONS:

\$300,000 SATURDAY SCRAMBLE FOR CASH
Everyone is scrambling over the excitement of Creek Nation Casino's "\$300,000 Saturday Scramble for Cash" promotion, your shot at \$7,500 in progressive drawings every Saturday through the end of March. Earn entries daily for 5 drawings from noon to midnight each Saturday. Any prize that isn't claimed is rolled over to the next drawing time, and the midnight drawing must go! Then come back for the finale on March 31 when we up the ante and increase the progressive drawings to \$5,000 each! (Now through March 31)

ROAD TRIP TO RICHES (LADIES NIGHT)
Ladies, hit the road in style with a 2007 Honda Civic Coupe, \$1,200 Marriott gift Card, \$500 for gas, and \$5,000 in cash. Swipe your card at Guest Services for our Road Trip to Riches promotion beginning at 5 pm each Monday. Every fifteen minutes from 6 pm to 10 pm a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two ladies with the most money after the 10 pm drawing will earn a key to return for the big giveaway on March 26. (Mondays starting at 5 pm, through March 26)

BIG LEAGUE FANTASY (MEN'S NIGHT)
Guys, Creek Nation Casino is here to fulfill every sports fan's dream with our Big League Fantasy promotion! Just swipe your card at Guest Services each Wednesday beginning at 5 pm. Every fifteen minutes from 6 pm to 10 pm a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two guys with the most money after the 10 pm drawing will earn a certificate to return on March 28 for our Pro Fantasy Package including trips to the NBA Finals, World Series, and Super Bowl! (Wednesdays starting at 5 pm, through March 28)

SENIORS WAKE UP AND WIN
Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino every Monday and Tuesday! From 7 am to 11 am, the first 500 seniors will receive \$5 match play on selected machines and \$4 off the Full Moon Caf'e's \$5.99 breakfast buffet. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino's Wake Up and Win promotion? (Mondays and Tuesdays, 7 am – 11 am)

\$10,000 MARCH MONEY MADNESS
Take your best shot at picking the winners of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournam-

ent for a chance at \$10,000 in prizes at Creek Nation Casino. The person with the most correct picks will be awarded \$5,000! Second place earns \$1,500 and third place receives \$1,000. Start filling out your brackets March 12 at Guest Services. Plus, the first 500 players who enter by 11:59 pm on March 14 will receive \$5 in free play! (March 12 through April 2)

POKER PROMOTIONS:

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT
Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold'em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 pm and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN
Pull up a seat in Oklahoma's most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9:30 am. The tournaments are open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$50.00.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS
Ladies Night Texas Hold'em tournaments start at 7 pm every Monday. Registration

begins at 6:30 pm and is open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

MEN'S NIGHT – THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT
The Big One, Creek Nation Casino's Men's Night no-limit Texas Hold'em tournament starts at 7 pm every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 pm (\$115 total buy-in). Now with an extra \$1,000 added to the pot each week!

TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS
Losing Never Felt So Good! Creek Nation Casino's new Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots consist of three separate progressive jackpots awarded to hands of aces full of jacks losing to a better hand. The jackpot is currently at \$50,000!

TEXAS HOLD'EM HIGH HANDS
Good hands are hard to come by, and at Creek Nation Casino, Texas Hold'em high hands pay bonuses 24 hours a day, seven days a week with progressive bonuses on four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush hands increasing \$100 a day.
COMPETE FOR A SEAT: \$50,000 WORLD SERIES OF POKER FREE ROLL TOURNAMENT
Be one of Creek Nation Casino's top 40 poker players with the most hours or most tournament points to be awarded a seat into our \$50,000 World Series of Poker

Free Roll Poker Tournament. Earn additional entries every time you buy in. See Poker Room for more details.

BLACKJACK PROMOTIONS:

CLUB 21
Join the club, and earn your share of \$23,500 each week during our "Club 21" promotion in the blackjack pit. Club 21 occurs every Monday through Thursday with half hour cash drawings for \$250 from 12 pm to 6 pm. Come back on Sundays during the same time as we up the ante and we award three winners each hour \$500. All players will earn a \$10 bonus for suited blackjack of clubs and everyone else at the table earns our famous \$5 Envy Bonus. If you receive a suited blackjack of clubs or buy in for \$100 you will receive an entry into the Sunday through Thursday drawings. (Sunday – Thursday)

Seventh Annual National NABA Fund National Business/Procurement Conference

GALVESTON ISLAND, TX — The mission of the Native American Business Alliance is to facilitate mutually beneficial relationships between Native American-owned companies and private and public business sectors and to educate communities about Native American Culture, paving the way for future generations.

Theme of the conference, "Staying on the Path", is significant for many reasons: being on a path implies that you have a destination, staying on that path forces you to focus, and as long as you put one foot ahead of the other and continue to follow your path you will reach your destination (the goal that you hope to achieve). This conference will refresh you as a business owner and provide you with an array of tools to utilize in your day-to-day business dealings.

The purpose of the conference is the purpose of the annual NABA Fund National Business/Procurement Conference is to provide Conference Attendees and NABA Members (Corporate Partners, Tribal Members and General Members) with an opportunity to come together to networking, exchange business ideas, develop business relationships, identify procurement opportunities with Fortune 500 Companies and to enhance one's business skills through thought provoking guest speakers and entrepreneurial workshops. Similarly, the conference speakers and workshops leave the entrepreneur motivated, inspired, encouraged and ready to implement the new strategies into their day-to-day business operation. It is said from many NABA the new strategies into their day-to-day business operation. It is said from many NABA conference attendees that you will have an opportunity to meet a minimum of three times with a corporation you are interested in doing business with in the future, thus building the business relationship.

This year, NABA has enhanced its conference program with an additional networking opportunity through an "industry-base" luncheon. The luncheon is designed to give Native American Business Owners an opportunity to break bread with a corporate purchasing representative in their area of interest without being distracted with time or a guest speaker. Aside from this networking activity, the Member-to-Member Session/Long-Table (Procurement) Session offers

each (Corporate Purchasing Representative, Supplier/Long-Table (Procurement) Session offers each (Corporate Purchasing Representative, Supplier/Diversity Manager, Tribally-Based Business, and Native Business Owner) a scheduled amount of time to exchange business information in relation to procurement opportunities. We encourage Native Businesses to bring the Member-to-Member (procurement) time.

Who should attend the conference:

- Native American Business Owners
- Tribally-based Business Owners
- Companies wanting to do business with Native American Business Owners
- Supplier/Diversity Program Managers
- Tier I & II Level Suppliers/Vendors
- Certified & Minority Business Entrepreneurs
- Small Business Owners wanting to expand their business
- Corporate Purchasing Representatives
- Governmental Agencies wanting to share procurement opportunities

What are the benefits of attending the NABA Fund Conference: The benefit of the NABA Fund National Business/Procurement Conference provides the entrepreneur with an opportunity to network, develop business relations, identify procurement opportunities and to gain access to corporations on a face-to-face level where each has a goal of wanting to do business!

Sponsors of the event: If you are a sponsor of the 2007 Conference, you may pick up your registration packet at the designated registration check-in point. We ask that you wear your registration and identification badge throughout the conference in order for conference attendees to identify you when the appropriate time calls throughout the conference.

Registration and Identification Badge required to attend events. Depending on when you elect to check into the hotel, all conference materials (registration packets) can be picked up Sunday, April 22 through Monday, April 23 unless you are purchasing a two day conference packet. If you are purchasing additional tickets for the gala event, tickets can be picked up no later than 3 p.m. on April 24. Only those individuals who are registered and have a badge and/or

with events wristbands may attend conference events. Meal tickets must be presented for all meals.

Registration Fees: See the Conference Registration Form for your specific area of cost. Late fees (\$25.00) will apply to the full registration fee beginning April 1, 2007. Walk-up rates apply (\$100.00) plus the full cost of registration starting April 22, 2007.

Conference Registration must be paid in advance prior to the conference (April 13, 2007 deadline)

Group discounts available for groups of five (5) or more, a group discount of (\$30.00) off of the price of the specific conference reate applies.

Conference Cancellation Policy requests for cancellations must be made in writing to NABA and postmarked by April 1, 2007 for registrants to receive a refund (all cancellations are subject to a \$100.00 processing fee. No refunds will be made for cancellations postmarkd later than April 1, 2007 or for no-shows.

Hotel Accommodations: For resort reservations, please contact them directly. NABA is not responsible for your room fees/incidental cost or reimbursement for no-shows. Posted as NABA or Native American Business Alliance.

The San Luis Resort, Spa & Conference Center; 5222 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston Island, TX 77551; or call (409) 744-1500 or (800) 445-0900 reservations or visit www.sanluisresort.com.

The San Luis Hotel is nestled on the 30 acre San Luis Resort featuring the Island's most lavish accommodations, extensive resort amenities and personalized and professional service. Honored recipients of the AAA Four Diamond Award, for fifth consecutive year, recognized for outstanding amenities, flawless execution of service and attention to detail time and time again.

An easy-to-reach destination, The San Luis Resort, Spa & Conference Center on Galveston Island is less than an hour's drive from Houston, three hours from Austin and five from Dallas/Ft. Worth. Transportation directly to the The San Luis is available from both Houston airports with advance reservations. In additions, The San Luis is conveniently locate just minutes from the Galveston Airport and Interstate 45.

Second Annual American Indian Business Expo

DENVER, CO. — The Second annual American Indian Business expo is scheduled to held on March 20–22, 2007 at the Red Lion Hotel Denver/Central located at 4040 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80216.

To make reservation call (303) 321–6666 or (800) 733–5466 or visit the website at

www.redlion.com/denvercentral

Who should attend? American Indians with interests in economic development, business development, resource management, tourism, arts and culture, both on and off representatives; procurement specialists; and other entrepreneurs.

RES 2007 sponors show commitment to Indian Country Nation's largest annual Indian Business convection targets economic development in Indian Country

LAS VEGAS, NV — Fortune 500 companies, the federal government and prominent American Indian-owned businesses will sponsor this year's Reservation Economic Summit "RES 2007", which takes place March 12–15 at the Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, Nevada. The event is organized by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED), the only national non-profit organization solely dedicated to developing American Indian economic self-sufficiency through business ownership.

The year's lead or "Presenting" sponsor in the Inter-Tribal Economic Alliance "ITEA". This year's "Diamond" sponsors include: Lockheed Martin; Native American Contractors Association (NACA); Raytheon Company and BlackRock, Inc.

"Platinum" sponsors include: The Boeing Company, Hilton Hotels Corporation; Miccosukee Tribe; Northrop Grumman Corporation; Washington Mutual; and UPS.

The "Gold" sponsors include: Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc.; Cisco Systems, Inc.; DRS Technical Services, Inc.; Macy's; IBM; KeyBank; Kraft Foods; Native American Bank; PCS Enterprises, Inc.; Philip Morris USA; Southern California Edison; The Diversity Network; Time Warner; Toyota; Union Bank of California; Harrah's Entertainment; United Brotherhood of Carpenters; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.; Wells Fargo; and Williams, Kastner and Gibbs PLLC.

"I would like to acknowledge this year's

presenting sponsor and partner, The Inter-Tribal Economic Alliance ("ITEA"), a national consortium of American Indian tribes, Alaska Native Corporations and Native Hawaiian communities formed in 2001 to create Indian jobs and create Indian businesses. ITEA has been a steadfast advocate of the National Center, and one that continues to support our principles and unique vision," said NCAIED President and CEO Ken Robbins. "Additionally, special thanks go out to all our sponsors who are generously supporting this important event. The theme of this year's RES 2007 convention is: "Creating Sustainable Economics: Exploring and Leveraging Assets – Developing Economic Opportunities" and the National Center is proud to work with all of our sponsors to promote economic development and job creation in Indian Country as well discuss how to create the underlying environment to build a skilled and competitive workforce."

"Our 'RES' sponsors are all committed to expanding business opportunities in our Native communities," said NCAIED Vice President Strategic Growth Scott Gregory. "The innovative partnerships that are forged during the course of our event contribute in no small measure to creating a self-sustaining and prosperous future for the tribal nations."

Visit www.ncaied.org for "RES 2007" registration and conference information or call the "RES 2007" Hotline at: (800) 462–2433, ext. 243. For more information about "RES 2007" sponsorship opportunities, contact Maryl Hamilton at (800) 462–2433, ext. 228.



CHR recognized for 30 years of service

OKMULGEE — Christine Wind Roberts has served the Muscogee (Creek) Health System for 30 years. She started working with Steve Wilson and Evelyn Parker in 1977 at the Muscogee (Creek) Capital Complex with the EMS working as a CHR.

During the past thirty years, Roberts has served the tribe in many different capacities, such as: staff member of the lab at the pharmacy, working at the clinic, maintaining and

updating medical records, working in the ER, and developing x-rays.

“As a CHR I learned a lot of different aspects throughout the medical field” said Roberts.

Roberts was a EMS First Responder for seven years. She has also transported dialysis patients to and from appointments for 12 years. Her daily schedule would consist of transporting patients at 3 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m.

“I enjoy where I work and who I

work with.” says Roberts.

She has also served as a Creek Nation CHR Representative at the OAA-CHR’s on the state level for two terms.

Roberts received EMS/CHR of the Year in 2005 at the state conference meeting in Tulsa. She received a trophy, plaque, and a blanket in recognition of the honor.

“She goes above and beyond her duties to provide her clients and community with quality service.” said Community Health Representative Manager, Cyndi Gilks. “She works long hours to make sure her clients are safe and receive the proper medical care they need.”

Not only does she fulfill her job responsibilities to the fullest, she could be considered a great humanitarian. “Roberts has even taken money out of

her own pocket to pay an electric bill in the amount of \$1,000 for one of her clients,” said Gilks. “She has also helped out with purchasing a refrigerator and a stove for a client.”

“I really like welcoming new CHR’s and showing them around.” says Roberts. “I really love my job and I have a great boss (Gilts) too!” said Roberts. Roberts plans to work as a CHR for many more years and keep helping more and more people..

Roberts is of the Tiger Clan and currently lives in Okemah. She speaks fluent Creek and is a member of High Springs Baptist Church. She has three children: Kelly Deere of Tulsa, Robby D. Deere of Okemah, and Tina Burgess of Okemah, She also has four grandchildren.

Health Fair Friday, May 11

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Salem, OK

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sponsored by:
CREEK NATION CHR PROGRAM

For more information please contact the Community Health Representative Program at (918) 756-1941. Cholesterol checks will be offered by Millennium Home Health for \$5. Everyone is invited to attend. Lots of information, fellowship, and fun! Door prizes will also be handed out.

The Importance of Physical Activity

Why should I be active?
“It's easier to maintain your health than regain it.” — Dr.. Ken Cooper

Physical activity can bring you many health benefits. Information from the U.S. Health and Human Services states that people who enjoy participating in physical activity of moderate-intensity like brisk walking or vigorous-intensity like jogging or running on a regular basis reduce their risk of developing heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and colon cancer by 30–50%. Additionally, active people live longer than inactive people.

Regular physical activity can improve health and reduce the risk of an early death in the following ways:

- Reduces the risk of developing and dying from heart disease
- Reduces the risk of stroke
- Reduces the risk of having a second heart attack in people who have already had one heart attack
- Lowers both total blood cholesterol and triglycerides and increases HDL, the “good” cholesterol
- Lowers the risk of developing high blood pressure
- Helps reduce blood pressure in people who already have hypertension
- Lowers the risk of developing type 2 diabetes mellitus
- Reduces the risk of developing colon cancer
- Helps people achieve and maintain a healthy body weight
- Reduces feelings of depression and anxiety
- Promotes psychological well-being and reduces feelings of stress
- Helps build and maintain healthy bones, muscles, and joints
- Helps older adults become stronger and better able to move about without falling or becoming excessively tired

Can a lack of physical activity hurt your health?

Evidence shows that those who are not physically active are definitely not helping their health, and may likely be hurting it. The closer we look at the health risks associated with a lack of physical activity, the more convincing it is that Americans who are not yet regularly physically active should become active.

Adapted from an article by the Center for Disease Control, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, Physical Activity for Everyone: The Importance of Physical Activity: Why should I be active? 2006.

American Diabetes Association selects Kentucky native Justin Harris as its national youth advocate

Justin Harris will represent the Association in its continuing efforts to educate communities and policy makers about the seriousness of diabetes

PRNewswire-USNewswire

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The American Diabetes Association, the nation’s largest and leading voluntary health organization dedicated to the fight against diabetes, has selected Justin Harris, 15, of Lexington, Kentucky, to be the Association’s 2006 - 2007 National Youth Advocate.

The announcement was made at the organization’s 3rd annual Community Volunteer Leadership Conference, held in Dallas, Texas. As the ADA’s National Youth Advocate, Justin, who was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes when he was 6 years old, will spend a year serving as a spokesperson for the Association, meeting with policy makers, promoting increased funding for diabetes research and prevention, and reaching out to young people and adults to encourage them to become involved in the fight against diabetes.

“For the past nine years Justin has led a tireless effort to combat diabetes in his community,” said Darlene Cain, Chair of the Board of the American Diabetes Association. “His passion and persistence in

educating those around him about the seriousness of this disease is admirable. As National Youth Advocate, Justin is taking his commitment to the next level, advocating for all young people currently living with diabetes and strengthening support for diabetes research that will one day, hopefully lead us to a cure.”

An honor roll student and competitive tennis player, Justin has been a very active volunteer for his local American Diabetes Association, serving as the Youth Ambassador for the Lexington Walk for Diabetes where he helped raise more than \$30,000 for diabetes research and implementing a local School Walk for Diabetes. He also has met one-on-one with numerous policy makers to discuss diabetes, including the Governor and First Lady of Kentucky, a U.S. Senator, State Senators and Representatives, and a State Supreme Court Justice.

In his role as National Youth Advocate, Justin hopes to increase awareness about diabetes and the importance

of diabetes research funding, and encourage more Americans, especially youth to become involved in the fight against this disease. He plans to meet with youth across the country, traveling to diabetes camps and school walks, keeping a journal of events he attends to post to his Youth Advocate page on <http://www.diabetes.org>.

“The National Youth Advocate’s job is to help advocate for adults and children if they have diabetes or not -- we need to get our message out,” said Harris, whose parents are Dave and Jennifer. “Every person with diabetes has a story to tell, and I want to hear those stories. I want to hear from them, but I also want to make sure their elected officials hear those stories too.”

Diabetes is one of this nation’s most prevalent, debilitating, deadly, and costly diseases. Nearly 21 million children and adults in the United States have diabetes and if present trends continue, one in three Americans, and one in two minorities, born in 2000 will develop diabetes in their lifetime. In 2002, one in 10 health care dol-

lars went towards diabetes care and the cost of diabetes was at least \$132 billion.

The American Diabetes Association is the nation’s leading voluntary health organization supporting diabetes research, information and advocacy. The Association’s advocacy efforts include helping to combat discrimination against people with diabetes; advocating for the increase of federal funding for diabetes research and programs; and improved access to, and quality care of health care for people with diabetes.

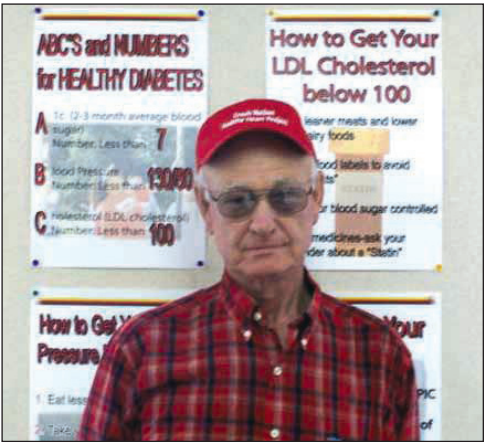
The Association’s mission is to prevent and cure diabetes and improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. Founded in 1940, the Association provides service to hundreds of communities across the country.

For more information, please contact the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) or visit their website at <http://www.diabetes.org>. Information from both these sources is available in English and Spanish.

Tribal citizen contributes to Healty Heart Project

EUFULA — Jimmy Nixon, 62 year-old Eufaula resident, participants in the Healthy Heart Project at the Eufaula Indian Health Center Diabetes Program. The purpose of the Healthy Heart Project is to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease in people with diabetes.

Participants in the Healthy Heart Project are encouraged to set goals with their case management team (Case Manager, dietician and exercise manager). Goals are set for healthy eating, exercising, self-monitoring and taking medications. Weight, blood pressure, and waist circumference are measured monthly. Lab work is repeated as needed to measure cholesterol and triglyceride levels. Nixon has achieved healthy ranges in all these measurements. He believes his regular exercise, healthier eating, and self-monitoring have been key to his success. He makes time to be active every day even with his stressful 40-hour a week job. He’s a deputy for the McIntosh County Sheriff’s Depart-



Jimmy Nixon

ment.

Nixon has been effective eating portions of smaller foods, and limits butter, sweets, and bread. “Eating at the same time every day has helped keep my blood sugar levels under control,” he said. He checks his blood pressure and blood sugar levels every day to keep track of how good his medications are working.

When asked why he wanted to join the Healthy Heart Project his answer was he wanted to be healthy and useful at the same time. “I want to contribute information to the study so that it will help others in the future when they deal with heart disease,” he said.

He continues to contribute to the Healthy Heart Project. He feels that if anyone has the opportunity to participate in the Healthy Heart Project, they should take advantage of it.

For information about the Healthy Heart Project, contact your local Diabetes program.

DOCTORS NOTE: Calories count

by Zack Anderson, DO/ CMO

OKMULGEE — Are you a smart consumer of fast food? Do you know how many calories were in the last meal you purchased?

Calories are a measure of energy. The number of calories in a food tells you how much energy is stored in a food. Calories provide the energy for the heart to beat, the lungs to breathe, the brain to think, the legs to move and much more. We need calories. Too many calories lead to weight gain.

A meal consisting of a quarter-pound cheeseburger (510 calories), large fries (530 calories) and large soda (320 calories) contains 1360 calories.

A meal of one slice of meat lover’s pan pizza contains 530 calories. How many pieces of pizza do you eat? One slice of pizza plus a large soda is 850 calories. Two pieces of pizza plus a large soda is 1380 calories.

Daily calorie needs are individual. For a person who needs 2000 calories, a meal consisting of quarter-pound cheeseburger, large fries and large soda provides two-thirds of a person’s daily calorie needs at one meal. When the person eats more than 2000 calories, the excess energy is stored as fat.

A person’s daily calorie needs are calculated using your age, sex, height, weight and activity level. A male who is 40 years old, 6 feet tall, weighs 210 pounds, works at a desk all day and does no regular physical activity needs about 2400 calories. A woman who is 60 years old, 5 feet 6 inches tall, weighs 160

pounds, works at a desk all day and does no regular physical activity needs about 1650 calories. As a person ages, fewer calories are needed. Persons who are inactive need fewer calories. The dietitian at your local clinic can calculate your calorie level for you.

Choosing smaller portions can lower calories in a fast food meal. For example, a small cheeseburger (300 calories), small fries (250) and diet soda (0 calories) is 550 calories, one-quarter of the 2000 calories.

Most chain restaurants provide nutrition information for the foods on their menus. You can use the information to find out how many calories are in your favorite meal. You can also use the list to choose a meal lower in calories.

Get the nutrition information for your favorite chain restaurant from the local store or from their website. Alternatively, purchase an inexpensive paperback book with calorie listings that include your favorite restaurants.

Your favorite meal may be too high in calories for you. Be adventurous and try different foods. Find a new favorite meal. Find a new favorite restaurant with healthier choices. Eat at home more often and save calories and money.

I would like to say MVTO, to Sharon Iverson R.D., for providing this information and to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens for allowing MCNHS to share this information with you.

Free Blood Pressure/ Blood Sugar Screenings at various locations

OKMULGEE — The Community Health Representatives offer free Blood Pressure/ Blood Sugar Screenings at various locations on a monthly basis. These screenings will hopefully encourage community members to take advantage of their efforts in promoting early detection for the prevention of hypertension and diabetes.

The CHR’s have been offering these screenings for many years at the community centers, however just recently it was decided that tribal employees should be screened as

well. The CHR’s offer screenings at the Creek Nation Housing and the Complex. CHR hopes to have an increase in the number of participants at both locations. The screening process takes only a few minutes, and most of the department supervisors have been very cooperative in allowing their employees to take a few extra minutes for screening.

The following is a schedule of CHR March screenings:

Tulsa Creek Indian Community – last Monday of the month;

Tulsa Creek Indian Community – Brunch, March 26;

Salem Nutrition Center- first Thursday of each month;

Sapulpa Nutrition Center – second Wednesday of each month;

Coweta – first Tuesday of each month;

Okmulgee Elderly Housing – first Friday of each month;

Okmulgee Nutrition Center – fourth Wednesday of each month;

Dewar Community Center – second Thursday of each month;

Twin Hills Community Center – third Thursday of each month;

Muskogee Community Center – third Wednesday of each month;

Eufaula Community Center – second Tuesday of each month;

Checotah Community Center – second Thursday of each month;

Okemah Nutrition Center – third Wednesday of each month;

Wetumka Nutrition Center - third Tuesday of each month;

Holdenville Community Center – third Thursday of each month;

Housing Authority – fourth Friday of each month;

Creek Nation Complex – last Tuesday of each month; and

Bristow – first Thursday of each month.

For more information contact the CHR Office at (918) 756-1941.

New licensed Construction Technician

OKMULGEE — On May 16, 2005, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Force Account hired Farrell Blackbear, as a Construction Technician 1.

Blackbear has been attending OSU Okmulgee for his Air Conditioning and Refrigeration - HVAC, and has just recently received his Mechanical Journeyman's for HVAC. HVAC is the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning industry, a specific program of study that is a contract-sponsored air conditioning technician program that leads to an Associate in Applied Science degree.

Blackbear attended OSU for 15 months and has done two interns. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Creek Force Account was his second intern. On his interns he learned alot of information about HVAC and received great experience to further his knowledge in his field of duties.

At OSU his semesters were split into nine week periods, three weeks of reading the books and staying in the classroom, while the other six were out in the field as an intern. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation also helped out by paying his tuition for one semester.

"Force Account has help me to learn about different things I need to

know about my job," said Blackbear. "I have learned alot about the correct terms for certain things, such as plumbing, and carpentry. I like working outside and helping people so this job is great for me."

Blackbear would also like to mention his family and that they have supported him threw it all the way. Blackbear and his wife Twyla have five kids, Mykayla 12, Ira 8, Raven 7, MadeylN 6, and Autumn 5.

Blackbear enjoys working at Force Account because every day is something different. Force Account has helped anywhere from three up to eight houses a day, whether it be fixing a sewer line or fixing an air conditioner.

He also runs equipment such as a backhoe or a trackhoe. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Force Account covers the 11 Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundary areas.

"I enjoy working at Force Account because of the great people I work with," said Blackbear. "I have really good managers and supervisors, as well as great co-workers"

Blackbear would also like to thank Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Force Account, Danna Minnick, and everyone else who supported him and helped him receive his license.



Blackbear

Preparing for a Tornado

by The American Redcross

Pick a place where family members could gather if a tornado is headed your way. It could be your basement or, if there is no basement, a center hallway, bathroom, or closet on the lowest floor. Keep this place uncluttered.

If you are in a high-rise building, you may not have enough time to go to the lowest floor. Pick a place in a hallway in the center of the building.

Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit Containing

- First aid kit and essential medications.
- Canned food and can opener.

At least three gallons of water per person.

- Protective clothing, bedding, or sleeping bags.
- Battery-powered radio, flashlight, and extra batteries.
- Special items for infant, elderly, or disabled family members.
- Written instructions on how

to turn off electricity, gas, and water if authorities advise you to do so. (Remember, you'll need a professional to turn natural gas service back on.)

Stay Tuned for Storm Warnings

Listen to your local radio and TV stations for updated storm information.

Know what a tornado WATCH and WARNING means:

A tornado WATCH means a tornado is possible in your area.

A tornado WARNING means a tornado has been sighted and may be headed for your area. Go to safety immediately.

Tornado WATCHES and WARNINGS are issued by county or parish.

When a Tornado WATCH Is Issued

Listen to local radio and TV stations for further updates.

Be alert to changing weather conditions. Blowing debris or the sound of an approaching tornado may alert you. Many people say it sounds like a freight train.

When a Tornado WARNING Is Issued

If you are inside, go to the safe place you picked to protect yourself from glass and other flying objects. The tornado may be approaching

your area.

If you are outside, hurry to the basement of a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area.

If you are in a car or mobile home, get out immediately and head for safety (as above).

After the Tornado Passes

Watch out for fallen power lines and stay out of the damaged area.

Listen to the radio for information and instructions.

Use a flashlight to inspect your home for damage.

Do not use candles at any time.

Your Local Red Cross Chapter Can Provide Additional Materials in English and Spanish:

"Safe Living in Your Manufactured Home" (ARC 4465) gives fire, flood, and tornado safety information for people who live in manufactured (mobile) homes.

"Are You Ready for a Thunderstorm?" (ARC 5009)

"Are You Ready for a Flood or Flash Flood?" (ARC 4458)

"Your Family Disaster Plan" (ARC 4466)

"Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit" (ARC 4463)

Materials for Children:

"Disaster Preparedness Coloring Book" (PDF File) (ARC 2200, English, or Spanish) for children ages 3-10.

"Adventures of the Disaster Dudes" (ARC 5024) video and Presenter's Guide for use by an adult with children in grades 4-6.

"After the Tornado" Coloring Book (ARC 2205, English, or ARC 2205S, Spanish)

To get copies of American Red Cross Community Disaster Education materials, contact your local Red Cross chapter.

And remember, when a tornado, flood, earthquake, fire, or other emergency happens in your community, you can count on your local American Red Cross chapter to be there to help you and your family. Your Red Cross is not a government agency and depends on contributions of your time, money, and blood.

For more information, please contact your local American Red Cross chapter or emergency management office.



Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Community Food Assessments Begin in MCN

OKMULGEE — It is time for the voices of the community members to be heard regarding food issues. Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative is beginning a series of meetings in all 23 MCN communities to discuss food issues, needs and concerns.

“We will also lead the communities in realizing what resources are available in terms of agricultural land, tools, knowledge and food traditions,” said Vicky Karhu. “Each meeting will consist of discussions designed to make people think about where their food is coming from and how it is produced.”

The idea of food security will be introduced and discussed in the cultural context of the Mvskokepeople and their long history of being farmers. “We will talk about the indigenous foods and their contributions to the world’s diet and to the general good health of the indigenous peoples,” said Karhu. “We will share ideas regarding health, traditional diet and modern lifestyle. After examining the problems, we will offer possible solutions and protential future activities that may help resolve some of the issues.”

2007 Elections dates set

OKMULGEE — The dates for the filing dates, primary and general election have been set.

The filing dates are July 16, 17, 18, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The primary election will be held on September 22 and the general election will be held on November 3.

If you have moved contact the Election Board to change your address at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7684 or 732-685.

Driveway departmental guidelines for burial services

OKMULGEE — The following are the guidelines for tribal driveways for burial services:

- Deceased must have been an en-rolled tribal citizen
 - Copy of deceased CDIB card
 - Verification of Enrollment from Citizenship (if no CDIB available)
 - Burial services must be within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries
- For further information, contact Bob Arrington, manager tribal driveways at (918) 732-7650 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7650.

Miss Indian World taking applications

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Applications for Miss Indian World Pageant will be accepted until March 20, 2007.

The concept for Miss Indian World originated in 1983 in Albuquerque, NM. Indigenous, young women from all over North America compete for the most prestigious crown.

Contestants are encouraged to apply

Everyone will be asked to fill out a simple written survey that will document the food situation fo reach community. The results of the survyrs will be tabulated and available to each community ot assist in planning future food projects.

“We hope that everyone who has an interest in growing, cooking, eating, preserving, buying or selling food will come to the meeting in your community,” said Karhu. “This is an opportunity to have your opinion be a part of the planning process for future projects.”

Each community has received a letter about the food assessment and should be scheduling their meeting soon. So far, two meetings have been held at the Holdenville Creek Indian Community Center and Wilson Creek Indian Community Center. Watch you community bulletin boards and local newspapers for the meeting closest to you. These meeting are open to the public and everyone is welcome. MFSI will have free garden vegetable seeds available for distribution to all people who attend.

as soon as possible in order to prepare for the competition, pageant, and raffle ticket sales. If you have any questions please e-mail: zell@gonmail.com or write to Miss Indian World Pageant c/o Gathering of Nations; 3301 Coors Road NW, #R300, Albuquerque, NM 87120 or call (505) 836-2810 or Fax: (505) 839-0475.

Display cases under structural design

OKMULGEE — Display cases in the lobby of our Capitol Complex are currently under structural redesign and will not be accepting items until further notice. It is with great regret this notice is published.

If more information is needed or if you would like to submit your items for future display please contact please contact Sunny Tiger at (918) 732-7823 or e-mail sunnyt@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Seeking former Seneca students

TAHLEQUAH — Seeking former Seneca Indian school students. If you attended Seneca or know of someone who did contact Gertrude Anderson James at 1206 E. Boone Tahlequah, OK 74464.

A reunion will be held on June 2 at Wyandotte. For more information call (918) 453-9330.

First annual Softball Tournament

DEWAR — Dewar PeeWee Football and Cheerleading Association will be hosting the 1st Annual Co-ed Softball tournament May 18th, 19th, 20th.

All proceeds will go to the Pee Wee Association.

For More information call 918-652-



Spring 5th Annual Celebration

March 23, 2007
9am - 4pm
Ages: 0 - 21

3 on 3 basketball Stickball Police
jump rope Resource fair Door prizes
FREE lunch Kids games Snacks
FREE t-shirt Jupiter jumps Ambulance
Helicopter Fire trucks

This Free Event is sponsored by:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Community Partnership Board

For more information contact Missy at 918-759-2334

1221, 918-652-1198 or 918-798-5810.

Annual Tennis Tournament

TULSA—The North American Indian Tennis Association will hold their Annual Tennis Tournament at LaFortune/Shadow Mountain Tennis Courts in Tulsa, OK on Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28, 2007.

Naita Oklahoma Committee will sponsor this year's tournament. Free Clinic lessons offered to younger youth each, on the day of the event. FREE RACKETS to younger youth while supplies last, sponsored byu David Dancer and Craig Pasqua

of Standing Tall Tennis.

NAITAwelcomes all Natine American children, adults adn seniors for healthy fitness of game of tennis. For more information contact: Jerry A. Bales 918-663-6275 (Cell) E-mail: JerryABales@aol.com or Kenny Tobert: 918-743-4301 (work) www. TolbertCo.com, William Bales 918-510-1300 (Cell). Mvto Cekicis.

Center will hold Varity of activities for elders

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Salvation Army Senior Center located at 2808 S. E. 44th in Oklahoma City invites all seniors

including Native American age 55 and older to join them for breakfast on Monday mornings beginning at 10:30 and for lunch on Tuesday through Thursday at 11:20a.m. There is also an indian Taco sale fund raising every other Friday at 11:30 a.m.

The Center also offers a variety of activities such as games, exercise class offered by Oklahoma City Indian Clinic, and a Native American beading class held on Tuesday of every week.

The center manager is Carole Hume and Marcella Gooden Owen is the program coordinator. For more information call the center at (405)619-7077.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is currently recruiting for the following openings:

I.T. Site Manager - Coweta

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of the position is to provide Computer Systems support for the Coweta Indian Health Clinic. Incumbent will be responsible for the installing and upgrading computer systems as designated and providing assistance and guidance in the technical and usage areas of computer operations throughout the Clinic. Day-to-day supervision and administrative support is provided by the Health System Administrator. IT support, guidance and direction will be provided by the information Resources Officer. This position is located at the Coweta Indian Health Clinic in Coweta, Oklahoma.

Compliance Officer - Lackey

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The role of the position is to conduct analysis, evaluation, review, research, development and implementation of standards, guidelines, policies and procedures to ensure compliance of the Muscogee Nation Health System (MNHS) with all applicable regulations, rules, laws, and standards established by and for third party payers with which the Health System interacts. This is an exempt position as applicable to the provisions of the FLSA. This position is located in the Health System administrative offices located in Okmulgee, OK.

Physician Assistant - Clinical Walk-In Station - Sapulpa

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of this position is to provide preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic medical care and services in the clinical walk-in station to the designated population of the Muscogee Creek Nation (MNHS) in accordance with the ambulatory health staff. In-

cumbent operates under the direct supervision of the physician. Provides guidance and assistance to Hospital staff as needed. This is an exempt position as applicable to the provisions of the FLSA.

Physician

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of this position is to provide healthcare to the designated population of the Muscogee Creek Nation Health System (MNHS) in accordance with the health system guidelines, policies and procedures. Delivery of services are provided in accordance with HIS guidelines, JCAHO standards, State and Federal guidelines and standards and accepted standards of practice as set forth by the American Medical Association or American Osteopathic Association. Incumbent reports to the CMO. Administrative support and supervision is provided by the HSA. This is an exempt position as applicable to the provisions of the FLSA. Position: Case Manager - Diabetes Program - Lackey Hall

Case Manager- Diabetes Program- Lackey Hall

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of the position is to provide case management to patients meeting the Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention Grant criterion. Incumbent monitors patient progress and coordinate clinic and community resources to assist patients in reaching cardiovascular disease prevention targets.

Pediatrician - Okmulgee

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of this position is to provide pediatric healthcare to the designated population of the Muscogee Creek Nation Health System (MNHS) in accordance with the health system guidelines, policies and procedures. Delivery of services are provided

in accordance with HIS guidelines, JCAHO standards, State and Federal guidelines and standards and accepted standards of practice as set forth by the American Medical Association or American Osteopathic Association. Incumbent reports to the CMO. Administrative support and supervision is provided by the Health System Administrator. This is an exempt position as applicable to the provisions of the FLSA.

Public Health Nurse - Sapulpa

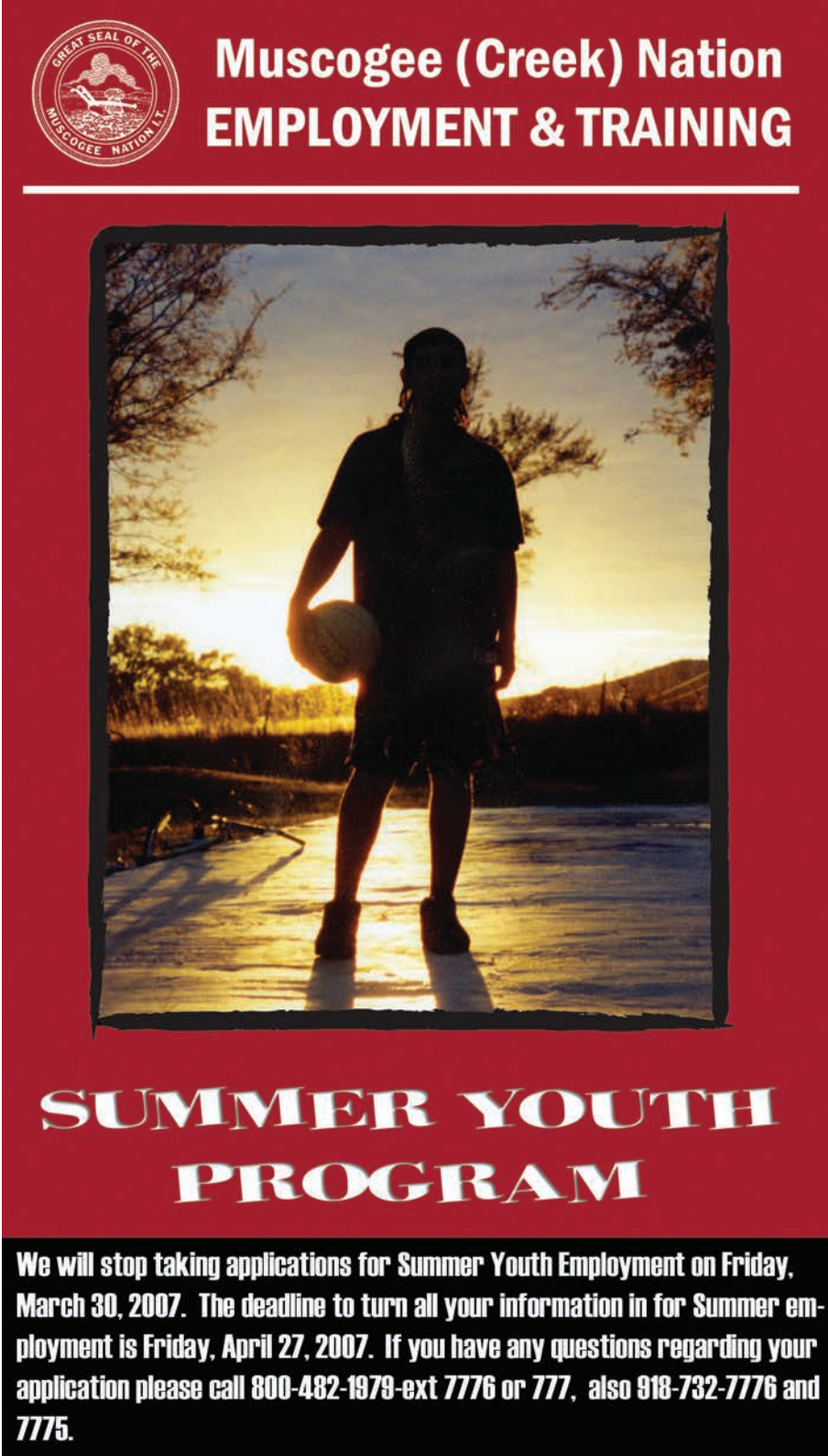
DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of the position is to provide multiple aspects of quality nursing and health care through community outreach efforts to prevent disease and to promote wellness within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS) service area. This position is located at the Sapulpa Health Center located in Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

Public Health Nurse - Coweta

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of the position is to provide multiple aspects of quality nursing and health care through community outreach efforts to prevent disease and to promote wellness within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS) service area. This position is located at the Coweta Health Center located in Coweta, Oklahoma.

Patient Registration Clerk - Okemah

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of this position is to provide technical and clerical duties and provide support to Medical Record and Health Information staff of the assigned facility.. Incumbent interviews patient to obtain pertinent data and information for insurance and billing purposes, updating records data integrity, etc. Related duties will be assumed as assigned. This position is located at the Okemah Health Center located in Okemah, OK.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

We will stop taking applications for Summer Youth Employment on Friday, March 30, 2007. The deadline to turn all your information in for Summer employment is Friday, April 27, 2007. If you have any questions regarding your application please call 800-482-1979-ext 7776 or 777, also 918-732-7776 and 7775.

Getting to Know Miss Muscogee Nation 2006

Omvkatskat estonkis owa? Melanie Frye cvhocefkvt os. Mvskoke opvkvv kerret owis. Fusvvlket omis. Cvckvlket Johnny Frye and Marion Bunney Frye omes. Cvrke eckvlket Harbie Frye and Hepsey Walker Frye omvnks. Cvcke eckvlket James Bunney and Lucille Smith Bunney omvnks. Yofalv kvneten vm etvlwat os. Cvrket Oce vpofov em etvlwat os. University of Oklahoma mvhakv- cuko ariyet os.

How is everyone? My name is Melanie Frye. I am learning the Mvskoke language. I am bird clan. My parents are Johnny Frye and Marion Bunney Frye. My father's parents are the late Harbie Frye and the late Hepsey Walker Frye. My mother's parents are the late James Bunney and the late Lucille Smith Bunney. My tribal town is Eufaula Canadian. My father's tribal town is Hickory Ground. I go to the University of Oklahoma.

I remember wanting to run for Miss Muscogee Nation when I was twelve years old, because my cousin Bobbie Lynn Frye won that year. I remember that she was able to represent our Muscogee people, and that was what I wanted to do also. Then as I got older I didn't think I would be able to run, but I had a lot of encouragement from different places. My family was my biggest supporters. There were also my Muscogee language Instructors at the University of Oklahoma, and my friends. Even though I didn't win that year I planned on trying again the following year, because it was a good experience. The young ladies that I competed with were very nice, and fun to be around. This year was the same. The young ladies and the pageant committee were nice, and a pleasure to be around.


Participation in the pageant requires each candidate to choose a platform or topic to address. In my heart I knew what I am passionate about; language preservation and revitalization. Language is an important aspect of the culture. It is also one of the unifying aspects of the Muscogee people, because it is used at both the Church grounds and Ceremonial grounds. Having the opportunity to promote this cause has been a true blessing to me. It is also a way of remembering and honoring the ones who teach the language, speak the language, and all those who've gone before. One of the people that I wanted to remember and honor is my late Uncle George Bunney. He spent the majority of his life teaching the Muscogee language, because he loved it. He wanted to preserve and revitalize this beautiful language.

This love of the language is something that I wanted to convey and instill in the Muscogee youth. Also, I wanted them to know that it is not too late to try to learn the language.

The pageant was a good experience for me, because it developed a confidence that I did not realize I had. It made me a stronger person, and it instilled in me the belief that if you truly want and believe in something, then you can achieve that and so much more. The committee members were also a great support. They helped bring out all the girls' qualities. They were also patient with all of us, because they knew that we were all nervous about being in the pageant. It was truly a life experience. It is also an experience that I hope that other young ladies will participate in, because just going through it makes friendships and memories.

After being crowned Miss Muscogee Nation I was happy and surprised, because we'd all done a good job. I was also happy that my family was able to observe and share this moment with me. I was also nervous, because I realized the huge responsibility. I am now an ambassador of our great nation. The committee member and my chaperone, Marcus Proctor has helped me throughout my reign. I have enjoyed the places and events we have been able to attend. I have also enjoyed getting to know the junior Miss, Senior Miss, little Miss, and their families. They have been a pleasure to be around, and I am truly blessed to know them. One of the best things is to meeting new people, and other nations. I also enjoyed sharing these moments with my niece Jaycie, who was 2006 little Miss Oklahoma City Muscogee Association (OCMA). It has been an honor representing the Muscogee people, and being able to promote the Muscogee language during my reign.

My final thought is for the Muscogee youth, I want them to know that while they are succeeding in the mainstream culture don't forget that you are a Muscogee person. That is something that I remember as I go through life. I remember what I was taught by my parents and relatives. While I am in mainstream culture I keep my culture with me, because I know I am a proud Muscogee woman. It is what keeps me from getting lost in the mainstream community. I just want our Creek youth to know that their Muscogee culture is not something that inhibits them from succeeding, but is a support system for their success. Mvto!



Beauty of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Scholarship Pageant 2007
 June 1 -2
 Henryetta Gymnasium, Henryetta, Okla.

Application Deadline is May 2, 2007 / Contact Koko Lowe for details 918-732-7649

Grant Writing Workshop

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Grant Institute's Grants 101: Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop will be held at Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City, April 30 – May 2, 2007. Interested development professionals, researchers, faculty, and graduate students should register as soon as possible, as demand means that seats will fill up quickly. Please forward, post, and distribute this e-mail to your colleagues and listeners.

All participants will receive certification in professional grant writing from the Institute. For more information call (888) 824 - 4424 or visit The Grant Institute website at www.thegrant-institute.com/.

THE GRANT INSTITUTE

GRANTS 101:

Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop to be held at Oklahoma State University Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

April 30 – May 2, 2007

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The Grant Institute's Grants 101 Course is an intensive and detailed introduction to the process, structure, and skill of professional proposal writing. This course is characterized by its ability to act as a thorough overview, introduction, and refresher at the same time. In this course, participants will learn the entire proposal writing process and complete the course with a solid understanding of not only the ideal proposal structure, but a holistic understanding of the essential factors, which determine whether or not a program gets funded. Through the completion of interactive exercises and activities, participants will complement expert lectures by putting proven techniques into practice. This course is designed for both the beginner looking for a thorough introduction and the intermediate looking for a refresher course that will strengthen their grant acquisition skills. This class, simply put, is designed to get results by creating professional grant proposal writers.

Participants will become competent in program planning and proposal writing for professionals after successful completion of

the Grants 101 course. In three active and informative days, students will be exposed to the art of successful grant writing practices, and led on a journey that ends with a masterful grant proposal.

Grants 101 consists of three (3) courses that will be completed during the three-day workshop.

FUNDAMENTALS OF PROGRAM PLANNING

This course is centered on the belief that "it's all about the program." This intensive course will teach professional program development essentials and program evaluation. While most grant writing "workshops" treat program development and evaluation as separate from the writing of a proposal, this class will teach students the relationship between overall program planning and grant writing.

PROFESSIONAL GRANT WRITING

Designed for both the novice and experienced grant writer, this course will make each student an overall proposal writing specialist. In addition to teaching the basic components of a grant proposal, successful approaches, and the do's and don'ts of grant writing, this course is infused with expert principles that will lead to a mastery of the process. Strategy resides at the forefront of this course's intent to illustrate grant writing as an integrated, multidimensional, and dynamic endeavor. Each student will learn to stop writing the grant and to start writing the story. Ultimately, this class will illustrate how each component of the grant proposal represents an opportunity to use proven techniques for generating support.

GRANT RESEARCH

At its foundation, this course will address the basics of foundation, corporation, and government grant research. However, this course will teach a strategic funding research approach that encourages students to see research not as something they do before they write a proposal, but as an integrated part of the grant seeking process. Students will be exposed to online and database research tools,

as well as publications and directories that contain information about foundation, corporation, and government grant opportunities. Focusing on funding sources and basic social science research, this course teaches students how to use research as part of a strategic grant acquisition effort.

REGISTRATION

\$597.00 tuition includes all materials and certificates.

Each student will receive:

- The Grant Institute Certificate in Professional Grant writing
- The Grant Institute's Guide to Successful Grant Writing
- The Grant Institute Grant Writer's Workbook with sample proposals, forms, and outlines

REGISTRATION METHODS

1) On-Line -Visit www.thegrant-institute.com/ and click on the Registration area. Fill out the online registration form completely. We'll send your confirmation by e-mail.

2) By Phone - Call toll free (888) 824 - 4424 to register by phone. Our friendly Program Coordinators will be happy to assist you and answer your questions.

3) By E-mail - Send an e-mail with your name, organization, and basic contact information to info@thegrant-institute.com and we will reserve your slot and send your Confirmation Packet.

You have received this invitation due to specific educational affiliation. We respect your privacy and want to ensure that interested parties are made aware of The Grant Institute programs and schedules. This is intended to be a one-time announcement. In any event, you should not receive any more announcements unless there is a program next year in your area. To be removed from next year's announcement, send an e-mail to unsubscribe@thegrant-institute.com. Just write "remove" in the subject line.

JOM Scholarship Time

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Johnson O'Malley program is proud to announce once again it is time for the JOM Scholarship Awards. The scholarships are opened for qualifying JOM senior students within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM service area.

JOM will be awarding 16 scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 each. There are no income guidelines and all JOM senior students are welcomed to apply. The JOM office will be receiving applications until the April 20, 2007,

"X-TREME KNOWLEDGE IS POWER" YOUTH SUMMIT

DURANT—"X-Treme Knowledge is Power", a 2007 Youth Summit, will be held at the Choctaw Coliseum in Durant, Oklahoma on Tuesday June 5, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Summit, designed to be an educational and motivational fun filled experience, will help youth ages 14-21 prepare for the employment challenges of the future. This event will feature live educational and motivational entertainment including former Astronaut John Herrington; Olympic gymnast Shannon Miller; Team Thunder, a race car demo presentation focusing on the importance of math and science skills; and Thunder X, a show featuring youth performing daredevil motorcycle stunts.

All organizations/agencies providing services to youth will be invited to sponsor youth for participation in this dynamic event.

5:00 p.m. deadline and notifications will be made the first week in May.

The JOM program is happy to support our JOM students in their educational endeavors each year as we try to provide an avenue of financial support. We hope you will encourage your senior students to apply for this scholarship. Applications are available through the local school JOM Coordinator or you can click on the link below to download the application. Questions should be directed to JOM office at 918-732-7843 or 918-732-7839.

Registration is \$15 per person and will include a sack lunch, snacks, and an "Xtreme Knowledge" gym bag filled with occupational and educational materials and other goodies. For registration information, contact Kerry Manning or Lorrie Wright at 1 (866) 493-5465 or (580) 924-5331.

This event is being provided to area youth courtesy of The Governor's State Youth Council, Choctaw Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Creek Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Southern Workforce Board, Southeastern Workforce Board, KEDDO, Big Five Community Services, Oklahoma Department of Career Tech, Kiamichi Technology Center and the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation. Corporate sponsors will receive free advertisement during the event. Anyone wishing to donate time, materials or resources to help make this event a success, please contact Sherlynn Danderson at (580) 924-8280, ext. 2203.

Destination Bacone College

College Motivation Day 2007

Thursday, March 29th beginning at 9:00 AM Bacone Chapel, Muskogee

Destination Bacone: College Motivation Day 2007 is your opportunity to find out what college life is all about. During this free event, you can:

- Tour the campus
- Meet with Bacone students and faculty
- Apply for scholarships and other

financial aid

· Learn about the different clubs and activities on the campus

· Enter a drawing for different prizes
 High school seniors, juniors and their parents and families are invited to attend.

To register or get more information, call (918) 781-7340 or 1-888-682-5514, or send an e-mail to admissions@bacone.edu.

Bacone College ... Where Spirituality, Academics and Culture come together

FEATURES

ELDERLY - B2

Senior Miss Pageant looking for participants



RELIGION- B3

Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church celebrates 100 years & Togo Berryhill memorial



LIFESTYLES- B4

4-H program has been a big help to Dusty Todd



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

March 2007

Native American History Series: Out of the Mists of Time

by Judge Patrick E. Moore

The fall winds brought the first hint of winter with the coming of a snowy mist that melted when it landed on the ground or touched the skin or fur clothing of the members of the clan. The oldest male leader, Hvmken, who had been born twenty-seven seasons ago, had decided this was the season for a move to new territory following migrating herd animals instead of facing another fierce winter in the open expanses where the clan had always lived. Hvmken had also observed continuous flights of geese and ducks flying in the same direction.

Last winter Hvmken's clan had lost almost one-half of its members due to an early winter that exhausted food stores and a late arrival of spring. Now there were only seventeen clan members. All of whom were packed and ready to begin an unbelievable trek following millions of waterfowl, vast herds of assorted herbivores, giant bison with six foot antlers, enormous caribou, and many different species of mammoths some twelve feet tall. All these animals and the clan were moving to the south and east before now lush vegetation became dormant and winter's ice descended.

Hvmken increased the clan's pace in order to maintain contact with this moving food source. He knew they would need to make a kill every seven or eight days to survive. By late fall they had progressed into an area never before explored and the topography was changing from the level plain, to which they were accustomed, to one where they could see distant mountains to the northeast and far to the south west.

It was into this wide valley they pushed. Unknown to Hvmken, unusually strong ocean currents were circulating warm water from a vast southern ocean up and along the western coast of this new land. This warming trend was to cause several months delay in the arrival of arctic winds, ice, and the overwhelming winter chill. This rare ocean current allowed Hvmken's clan to progress several hundred miles farther down the coast of this new territory where winter's effects were not to as severe.

The first human had entered the western portions of what is now known as North America.

Another clan leader, Hokkolen,

was also beginning to move his clan from ancestral lands in another part of the world. They were moving north west along a broad sea coast. Hokkolen's clan were sea explorers, accustomed to ocean travel aboard water craft constructed out of the skin of giant ground sloths. They also derived most of their food from the sea with occasional ventures inland to hunt large land animals, which were mainly necessary as material for outer clothing, tools, fish hooks and water craft construction. They also enjoyed animal meat as a dietary variety and had perfected curing and storage of dried meats for use when traveling by sea and to feed the clan during the winter season.

Hokkolen's clan movements took them north west, passing through an area where they could see, in the distance to the west, massive white cliffs. They paddled toward these white cliffs and followed this new coast line further north and west. Hokkolen's clan continued until land gave way to the sea.

These early travelers also benefitted from a different, but just as strong, warm Southern Ocean current. It allowed them to skirt the ice flows and travel over rich fishing banks. They navigated by following familiar sea birds until Hokkolen's lead boat glimpsed, in the distance, a foreign shoreline. These adventurers went ashore in a sheltered cove where they weathered a late arctic winter storm. Their skills as fishermen and water travelers had served them well. They had entered into a vast land mass where the human species was unknown.

It was here that the first human entered the eastern portions of what is now known as North America.

The North American continent had its first human visitors over 40,000 years ago. There is accumulating evidence revealing the first Americans arrived from Asia before Ice Age glaciers covered most of the continent twenty-thousand years ago. ¹There has been evidence uncovered at the Cactus Hill, Virginia archeological site, indicating humans, who once lived there had close ties to an European culture, called Solutrean.

The Solutrean culture originated in an area of southwestern Europe that was to become northern Spain and southern France. The Solutrean people, for unknown reasons, disappeared from their European homeland some 19,000 years ago, however, stone tools found in excavations at the European So-

lutean site, are constructed in the same manner as stone tools found at the Cactus Hill site². Could they in fact have merely migrated by water to North America?

Scientists at the Smithsonian Institution³ have pointed out that human development of water craft occurred more than 40,000 years ago and this mode of transportation must have been used by humans to cross the multitude of rivers and lakes in North and South American in order to populate the Americas. There is a distinct possibility a migration occurred from the European continent 40,000 years ago. This could explain weapon, tool and anatomical differences between ancient human skeletal remains found in different locations from east to west across the Americas.

Archaeological discoveries at the 14,700 year old Monte Verde, Chile site during the 1990's lend credence to humans actually being very well established in North America before the last Ice Age.⁴ Previously accepted human entry dates into North America believed to be around 15,700 years ago, would have required these early people to have covered 12,000 miles and two continents in 1,000 years before reaching Monte Verde. An impossible task considering the two available methods of transportation.⁵

Prior to 15,700 years ago travel, by foot from Asia to North America would have been impossible due to the prevailing ice sheets. There could have been travel by water and on foot before the formation of this last Ice Age. It would have had to occur before the formation of the impenetrable ice sheets, or at least 40,000 years ago.

Experts have used computers to model the length of time required for human migration from the Bering Strait into South America. This information coupled with geological evidence concerning the time and extent of glacier coverage of North America. When added to the length of time required for the development of the proven 150 different language families used in the Americas reveal that the America's population is at least 40,000 years of age⁶ and quite possibility 50,000 years or older.

¹ National Geographic, Dec. 2000 Hunt for the First Americans.

² Anthropologists Dennis Stanford and Bruce Bradley, Supplement to National Geographic, Dec. 2000.

³ Scientific American: Feature Article: Who Were the First Americans?: Sept. 2000.

⁴ SCI-TECH, Feb. 17, 1998, Johanna Nichols University of California at Berkeley.

⁵ Id. n.2.

⁶ Id

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE — This month has been a month heavy with deaths, transformations, made light with a few births. Two mentors have moved on from this earth. The first to leave was Louis Ballard, the Quapaw and Cherokee world-class composer from northeastern Oklahoma.

When I arrived at the Institute of American Indian Arts for high school as a teenager, Ballard was assigned as my advisor. We were both from Oklahoma; that was our starting place. When I needed a place of refuge from my many battles, I would wander up the sidewalk, past Academics to his music studio. We didn't talk music. I had given it up a few years before, had walked out of a band room because the band teacher refused to allow me to play sax, because I was a girl. And I had stopped singing because I was forbidden to sing. I was drawn to Louis Ballard by his immense kindness; he was someone who knew how to listen, even when words weren't necessarily spoken. On his walls were large, beautiful images of Indian ballerinas, including Maria Tallchief, who was also from Oklahoma, he told me. He had composed music for her. I saw that he was a man of achievement. And, like many others, I was inspired by the music that came from his studio, by the native choir he fostered for which he arranged traditional music. I still know those songs.

It was only years later that I became aware of his immense contributions to the world of music, of his many orchestral compositions that always referred back with great dignity to the roots of our indigenous music. He managed to carry a great respect and always dignity for the gifts of our nations, though he came up through a time of shame of identity, like many in my parent's generation.

In my late thirties I turned back toward a music that had been denied me. And this restarted my relationship with Louis Ballard. He was always helpful. His knowledge was coherent and wide-ranging. And he shared. He was a fierce proponent of what our cultures have to offer.

I called Louis before Christmas, a few months ago. We talked for over an hour, about family, about our music endeavors, about the organization: First Nation Composers Initiative (for which we were founding members), mostly about what matters. He encouraged me. As we visited and I listened to his manner of speaking I realized how lonely I was for these mothers, fathers, grandparents of our old ways. For though Ballard lived in New Mexico, his spirit was rooted in the wisdom found at the center of those tribal lands in Oklahoma. His memory was profound and alert. He even remembered my Sonic Drive-In order from a visit with him there twenty years ago!

This is how I know Louis. He was an exemplary mentor, and will remain so, because the spirit lives long past the body or time. He reminds me to be dignified, coherent in what I say and how I listen. And to be exact in my art, in anything I give back to the world. I will always hear his voice as he spoke on behalf of our peoples, and of course, his music. He was all of this, and more. Mvto.

And I need to mention an important mentor who suddenly left us this week: the poet Gene Frumkin. He was a poetry professor at the University of New Mexico who, along with poetry writing and English, taught kindness and concern. He nurtured his students; he believed in us. He encouraged us to enter poems in contests and to publish in small magazines,

and once drove our poetry workshop up to a literary conference in Colorado Springs for the weekend. That act of commitment on his part sealed it: we were real poets! In the end what we will carry away from this place are memories, are the stories, songs, actions and words we share with each other. We certainly won't be carrying away our name-brand cars, trucks, electronics, stuff or any of our money or our CDIB cards.

Mvto Gene Frumkin. I write to acknowledge him, and to remind everyone to go visit those who helped you along the way. My wise, inner companion kept nudging me to visit Gene, this man who nurtured the spirit of a young and conflicted poet back so many years ago. I was too busy.

We need to make it a practice to acknowledge and thank all of those who help us along our journey. Every gift we have is deserving of thankfulness: food, clothing, shelter, land, inspiration, friendship, vehicles, computers, movies, medicines, electronics, our bodies, planets, suns, and all of those who provide the gifts. We are dependent on the sacrifices of plants, animals, on various powers that move about, above or within the earth. We used to be much more aware of the process of life, and remembered not just how to speak with these, but that we had and have a crucial relationship to and with plants, animals and the rest of consciousness, to the Creator of all this. Some still acknowledge that relationship. Humans aren't the only carriers of consciousness, of plans, of life.

Consider this: the plant we call "Corn" or "Vce", has consciousness, and decided to colonize human beings so that it would continue to grow, asserts Michael Pollen in The Omnivore's Dilemma: a Natural History of Four Meals. He proves it in his book as he shows the migration route of corn, and shows how corn and corn products have come to be in almost every meal that is eaten in this country. How did we become so human-centric to believe that humans are the only ones with consciousness? Consciousness isn't linear. All life carries consciousness. All life responds to thankfulness. With a perspective beyond books, beyond theologies, beyond politics, beyond small-mindedness; we will remember.

Remember

Remember the sky you were born under, know each of the star's stories.

Remember the sun's birth at dawn, that is the strongest point of time.

Remember sundown and the giving away to night.

Remember the moon; remember the dark.

Remember your birth, how you were given breath.

You were given laughter; you were given crying.

Remember the earth whose skin you are: red earth, black earth, yellow earth, white earth, brown earth: we are earth.

Remember the plants, trees, animal life who all have their tribes, their families, their histories, too. Talk to them; listen to them. They are alive.

Remember the winds. Remember their voices. They know the origin of this universe.

Remember you are all people and all people are you.

Remember you are this universe and this universe is you.

Remember all is in motion, is growing, is you.

Remember. Remember.

Students of Native American languages invited to register for language fair

by Sandra Harley

NORMAN — Students of Native American languages from preschool to high school age are encouraged to enter the fifth annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair, scheduled for Thursday and Friday, April 5 and 6 at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma. Participants of all ages may demonstrate their language skills in the spoken language and language with music or dance categories. Other competition categories include poster art and book-making categories, open to grades three through 12, film/video category open to sixth- through 12th graders; and a language advocacy essay category open to students in grades ninth through 12th.

This statewide competition draws more than 500 participants from across Oklahoma as well as neighboring states who compete in as many as 18 Native American

languages. Pre-k through fifth-grade competitions will take place on Thursday, April 5; and sixth- through 12th-grade competitions on Friday, April 6. The top three award-winners in each age group and category will receive a trophy that can be displayed at their school or tribal center.

"We want to make people aware that our Native languages are vanishing at an alarming rate," said language fair coordinator Mary Linn, curator of Native American Languages at the museum. It is the younger generation's responsibility to learn, preserve and revitalize these languages before they are gone. "To Native Americans, words are powerful. The Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair encourages students to learn and demonstrate this Native Power of language in an University setting."

A panel of elders and teachers from several different tribes will judge the language

performance and spoken language competitions. Native artists will judge the posters based on creativity and use of this year's theme, "Powerful Languages, Powerful Lives," and Native authors will judge the books. Every student who participates will receive a medallion and Language Fair T-shirt.

Registration forms and additional information are available online at the museum's Web site: www.snomnh.ou.edu. Deadline for registration is March 16. To have forms sent by mail, or for additional information, participants may contact the museum's Native American Languages department at (405) 325-7588 or by e-mail at ONAYLF@ras.snomnh.ou.edu. The 2007 Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair is made possible by the Boeing Company, Mike & Whitney Alvis, Robin Flint Ballenger, the Choctaw Nation Language Department and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma.

The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History is located on the OU Norman campus. Additional information about the museum is available by calling (405) 325-4712 or on the Web at www.snomnh.ou.edu.



Senior outing to Arizona State Museum Southwest Indian Art Fair

By Jackson Barnett, Manager Creek Nation Senior Services

TUCSON AZ, — A trip to Tucson, was taken by twelve Mvskoke Creek citizens over the weekend of February 22 to the 26. The occasion was the thirteenth annual Arizona State Museum Southwest Indian Art Fair. Long name. The fair featured some two hundred artists, crafts people, and performers.

We started our journey at 8 a.m. Thursday, the 22. I had originally signed seventeen seniors for this trip, but as it happens every time, five dropped out for various reasons.

We arrived in Midwest City and stopped at, where else, McDonalds for a quick snack and coffee and juice. We then proceeded on I -40 to our next stop somewhere out west. We stopped in Amarillo, for fuel and lunch then headed southwest on Highway 60. This took us through Hereford, and I wished it hadn't. The country air around is enough to make the most hardy sick. There seemed to be miles and miles of stockyards on both sides of the highway. I thought we would never get through the stench.

You can be sure I promised my people we would not be coming back through here. That's just Texas I Guess.

We made it to New Mexico and finally to Roswell, home of the 1947, Alien Spacecraft crash site. We didn't have enough time to sightsee Rosewell, so we had dinner then retired for the night. After a good continental breakfast in the morning, we were on our way to Tucson. We arrived just before dark, got our rooms, had dinner, and rested.

There was something for every-

one, at all price ranges. We enjoyed the browsing, talking with the artists, and watching all types of demonstrations and spending our money. And of course we enjoyed the food. Some of the food included fry bread, Indian tacos, roasted corn, and southwest red and green chili and stew.

In the morning we took in the fair and enjoyed lunch around noon. About this time the performers began their various dances next to the eating area. So we were able to have lunch and watch the performances. Just adjacent to the eating area is the Arizona State Southwest Museum itself. Most of us toured this at different times. The museum featured lots of Southwest Indian Tribal History. Some of their struggles were not unlike those our people endured.

We left the fair at four in the afternoon, got fuel and headed west for "Old Tucson". A pretty authentic western town where some well known western movies were made. Some movies include "Rio Bravo", "Stagecoach". "The man who loved cat dancing", and "Rio Lobo". There was whole panel of movies named, some for wide-screen and many for television.

We arrived too late to tour the whole town, so we were allowed to enter for an hour for one-half price. We looked around for that hour then were treated to a gunfight. "A real shoot-em-up!" It was pretty good, we then left and headed back to the motel and dinner.

Early Sunday morning saw us east-bound and down for Roswell, New Mexico again. We reached Roswell late afternoon.

After dinner I told my people I had to find something for my grandchildren. Since we were in Roswell, I had to have some "Hahkv" shirts. We were told that Wal-Mart had some. There was a whole department with all kinds of "Hahkv" stuff. I got four shirts and was happy.

Monday morning we were on the road again. We reached Amarillo, in the afternoon, had lunch then made it on into Creek Country. We arrived home at 7:30 that evening. All my riders said they enjoyed Tucson and the fair and were happy they were able to go.

Between Roswell and Tucson, we made a special detour to visit the Mescalero apache reservation located in the mountains. They were very friendly to us and invited us for coffee and to a meeting that was about to start. We visited for about an hour then had to get on our way.

Mother nature was not too kind to us on this trip. We encountered all kinds of elements except a typhoon at sea and an earthquake. We had high winds most of the way to Tucson, dust storms, rain, snow in the mountains between Tularosa and Roswell, NM and unusually cool temperatures this time of year, especially for Arizona. That's not the Arizona I remember when my family lived there.

But all things considered, we all had a good and safe trip.

Until next time, Mvto and Sincerely, Jackson Barnett
Manager Senior Services Mvskoke Creek Nation.

Senior Miss Pageant looking for participants

By Pearl M. Thomas
2001 Sr. Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation

OKMULGEE — Well, it's that time again, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation festival. The pageant committee has been working hard the past few months making plans for the annual scholarship pageant.

In 2001 the Senior Miss division was added to involve the elder women of our tribe. I had the honor to be the first 2001

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Miss. I dedicated that honor to the memory of my mother, Peggy (Sunny) Chalakee; who had gone to her reward in heaven just prior to this event.

Every year since then I have been

involved in so many activities with and for the tribe. I can't begin to express how much fun I have had. It's been an honor for me to

request the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as your first Senior Miss 2001.

I strongly urge all the elder women to contact KoKo Lowe for information as to how you can submit an application for the

pageant. For more information contact KoKo Lowe at (918)-732-7649, the application deadline is May 2.

Pearl M. Thomas
2001 Sr. Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation



1st Annual Belvin Hill Memorial and Tribal Hymn Singing

TULSA — The 1st Annual Belvin Hill Memorial and Tribal Hymn Singing will be on March 26.

The event will be held at the Tulsa Southern Hills Marriott in conjunction with the Oklahoma Statewide JOM Conference.

It will begin at 6:30p.m. and will be ending at 9p.m.

For more information contact Millie Colbert at (918) 732-7646.



Belvin Hill

Supplemental Security Income

Supplemental Security Income (or SSI) is a monthly stipend provided to some citizens and some lawfully admitted aliens by the United States federal government. It was started by President Richard Nixon. Individuals must prove to the Social Security Administration that they are blind, disabled or over the age of 65 with limited income to receive money. Although the Social Security Administration administers the SSI program, it is funded from the general revenues and is not in any way related to FICA payroll taxes. The Social Security Administration of course also administers all the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) programs associated with FICA payroll taxes. In most cases, an applicant for SSI and DIB (there are some extremely minor differences): a disabling condition for Social Security's purposes is a condition that prevents someone from performing substantial gainful activity, which is objectively measured at \$860, gross, per month in 2006. The condition must be expected to last at least one year to be reasonably expected to end in death. The decision as to whether an individual is disabled by this standard is made by the various state Disability Determination Services (DDS), which contract with the federal government to make such determinations. Although the DDS's are state agencies, they follow federal rules. The SSI program, or Title XVI of the Social Security Act, provides monthly cash assistance up to \$623 (as of 2007) for an individual to help meet the costs of basic needs of food, shelter and clothing. In most states, SSI eligibility usually assures concurrent access to important medical coverage under the various state Medicaid programs and sometimes access to Section 8 housing benefits. In some states, supplemental payments are made by the state, increasing cash assistance available through SSI.

SSI takes consideration what your income is and what resources you have. When most people receive Social Security disability benefits, during their initial five-month wait to receive these benefits, they will receive SSI if they meet the income and resource requirements. The resource limit, for individuals, is \$2000. Resources include anything that is cash or can be turned into cash, such as art, mineral rights, stocks or other investments, or real property. In some situations, however, these resources can be excluded. SSI benefits are generally reduced dollar-for-dollar by any unearned


income, such as TANF, alimony, unemployment insurance, Social Security, is treated differently, and more favorably. In other words, you may be ineligible if you receive \$750 per month in alimony, but may not be if you receive \$750 per month for working. It is permissible, subject to regulations, to work and continue to receive SSI. Even if you no longer receive SSI payments because your income from wages or self-employment is too high, you may still be eligible for receive Medicaid under so-called 1619 provisions.

SSI also takes into consideration the income of so-called "deemors," i.e., your spouse if they live with you, your parent or parents if they live with you and you are under 18, or, in some cases, your sponsor if you are an alien.

SSI is not retroactive, unlike Social Security disability. Social Security determines the month you have protected for an SSI application by the date of your intent to file, so long as it is expressed to Social Security and an application is filed within 60 days. You may call Social Security toll-free to set up a disability interview. You cannot currently file online for SSI. If you call the last day of the month, and the interview is set for the second week of the proceeding month, your SSI eligibility will still go back to the month you actually called and set up the appointment. Medicaid benefits usually start the first month in which you qualify both medically and financially, although actual SSI payments do not start until the next month.

If you are an immigrant you must have been a legal resident of the United States before August 22, 1996 in order to qualify for SSI. If you arrive after that date you will not qualify and you will be denied by SSA. However, the regulations governing alien eligibility for SSI are complex and contain many expectations, so if you are an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence (LAPR) and want to know if you might qualify for SSI, you should contact the Social Security Administration. Any month that you have an outstanding or unsatisfied warrant you are ineligible for benefits, in most states. A recent court decision somewhat mitigated this rule, in some northeastern states. If you are incarcerated for an entire calendar month, you are ineligible for benefits. If you are in a medical facility, paid for by Medicaid (at least 50%) your payment may be reduced to \$30.

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Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church held its 100 year celebration and Togo Berryhill Memorial



Pictured, from left to right, are: Rev. Sam Chupco, Rev. Andrew Johnson, Charlie Simmers, Rev. Jimmy Alexander, Rev. Edwin Jimboy, Rev. George Doyle, Second Cheif Alfred Berryhill, and Rev. Malcolm Tiger.

Written by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On February 17, The Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church held its 100 year celebration & Togo Berryhill memorial. In attendance was Master of Ceremonies, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and Sammy Chupco, officiating. Guest speakers included: Malcolm Tiger - Pecan Grove Methodist, Edwin Jimboy - Creek Chapel, George Doyle - High Springs Baptist, Harry Long - Retired, and Jim Alexander - New Joy Baptist.

Polly Homa was a lady who had a vast knowledge of the beginning of the Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church. She related the history of how it began. There are also other historic facts that were related to Reverend Togo Berryhill and those facts are included.

Asbury Indian Methodist Church was located northwest of Newtown Method-

ist Church. It was during the late 1800's that the Asbury Church had only two members remaining to operate the Church. The two members agreed and they approached the Newtown Church for assistance to keep their Church open. They asked if the Church would lend them some members to keep it operational. The Church agreed and sent some volunteers to assist them. One of the volunteers was Reverend David L. "Tobe" Berryhill.

Not too long after the Church was revitalized, one of the original members died. And, a few years later, the other member died. However, on the night that the last member was on his death bed, the members were gathered around as he breathed his final breath. One of the men beside the deathbed was heard as saying: "Tallahassee hakepes Ce". Which translated means "there are no more original

members."

Not too long after the death of the last original member, the members who were on loan to the Church attempted to keep the Church open. But, the landowner came to them and said that the Church owed him some money and that if they couldn't come up with the money, he was going to take the ground back that the Church was on, including the Church. The members said they had no money to pay him and he regained control of the ground and the Church. So, the members left.

The members who were on loan had

been away from Newtown for some time and felt that they wanted to stay together as a group and form their own Church. Alec Berryhill ap-

proached them and told them that if they were serious, he would provide them two acres with which to build a Church on. They accepted the offer and built a Church.

They were pondering the thought of what to name the Church when one of the members who was with the group by the deathbed asked, "What was that you said when that man died?" He said, "Tallahassee hakepes Ce." He said why don't we name the Church Tallahassee and they all agreed. The date of the laying of the first cor-



Togo Berryhill

nerstone is unknown, but it is believed that it was in the last part of the 1800's.

D.L. (David Logan "Tobe" Berryhill) was one of the first Pastor of the Tallahassee. Alec Berryhill was later ordained as a minister of Tallahassee.

Other Pastors were: Newton Jimboy, Willie Berryhill, Dave Berryhill, Alec Berryhill, Togo Berryhill, John Chalakee, John Tiger, Malcolm Tiger, George Bruner and the present Sam Chupco, Jr.

The former members of the Independent Methodist Conference are: Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church, Creek Chapel Indian Methodist Church, Rock Creek Indian Methodist Church, Tokepace Indian Methodist Church, Pecan Grove Indian Methodist Church, and Springtown Indian Methodist Church.

Nation provides High Springs with Transportation

OKMULGEE — On February 27, Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind presented High Springs Baptist Church with 12-passenger van. The van was purchased at the Jim McKay Ford Mercury Dealer.

Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind stated, "I really feel like the tribe has made a huge step in helping our tribal churches and I really believe that every penny that we put into the churches will come back to the tribe as a whole. I feel that they have been a major foundation for the tribe and tribal members for many years. Majority of the leaders today began learning their leadership skills from these churches so I believe that anything that we can do to help them and to protect the culture there will just be something that will come back to the tribe as a whole."

Pastor of the church Jesse Wind had some thoughts to share on receiving the

van. "The Church plans to use the van to help their youth to travel to different conferences and a big trip to Falls Creek . They will also be utilizing the van to help their elderly along with other members attend Sunday services. It gives the Church the opportunity to take members to various churches also, to visit them on their fourth Sundays as a group. The van will be used in a tremendous way by our church and we thank the tribe."

High Springs Church currently has 30-50 members that attend the church regularly. The Church is located five miles south of Okemah on Highway 27.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has helped numerous organizations with transportation, such as churches community centers, and other various organizations. In order to obtain transportation each organization must put in a request to their Council Representative.



Pictured: Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind Hands over keys to Pastor Jesse Wind. Along with church members Helen Frank, Martha Wind, and Ruby Bender.

SPIRITUAL BLESSING

"It was really a blessing to the church, something that was needed, and it has really made a big impact on our members. I want to give a special thanks to the National Council of Creek Nation for what they have done in helping our church. This is really something that has benefited us in a huge way and we really do appreciate this."
— Jesse Wind —

Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Association 4th Sunday Dates

Alabama Cedar Spring Cold Spring Forest Creek Mission Hutchachuppa Little Coweta Little Quarsarty Many Springs Okmulgee Prairie Spring Spring Weogufkee West Eufaula Yardeka Quarsada Alabama	Artusse Bemo Beaver Bird Creek Deep Fork Hillabee Hickory Ground #2 Hillabee Mekusukey Middle Creek #2 Montesoma Okfuskee Pigeon Sand Creek Eufaula Silver Spring Tulmochussee Wetumka	Baptist S.S. Mission Butler Creek Cedar Creek Cedar Creek Eufaula Grave Creek Greenleaf Nuyaka New Joy Randall Ross Mission Sand Creek Sand Spring Thewarthle Tookparfka Tuskegee Seminole Arbeka Wekiwa Wewoka	Arbeka Big Arbor Cedar River Hickory Ground #1 High Spring (Okemah) High Spring (Konawa) Little Cussetah Middle Creek #1 New Arbor Rock Spring Salt Creek Snake Creek #1 Snake Creek #2 Seminole Baptist Vian Creek Trenton
January 7 February 4 March 4 April 1	January 14 February 11 March 11 April 8	January 21 February 18 March 18 April 15	January 28 February 25 March 25 April 22

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

Springfield Methodist Church

Springfield Methodist Church will be hosting their annual Memorial Gospel Singing on May 27 at 7 p.m. Concession will be available.

Saturday March 31, Springfield will be hosting a Indian Taco / Yard Sale beginning at 10 a.m. at the Okfuskee County Fair Barn in Okemah.

Springfield will also be hosting a Wild Onion Dinner on April 7, beginning at 11 a.m. \$8 adults, \$4 children 12 and under, carry out trays are \$8.

Springfield Methodist Church is located two miles south of Okemah on Hwy 27, then four miles east then two miles south (follow signs).

Concharty Methodist Church

Concharty Methodist Church will be having a Wild Onion Dinner on March 24th beginning at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\$7 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under.

For more information please call

(918) 366-8450

Concharty will also be hosting Easter Services April 8, with Sunday school beginning at 10 a.m. and Church beginning at 11 a.m. Dinner and egg hunt will follow services.

Thlopthlocco United Methodist

Thlopthlocco United will be hosting a Wild Onion Dinner and Gospel Singing, on March 17, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children 5 to 12.

Thlopthlocco is located 8 miles South and 1 mile East of Okemah on Hwy 27.

Big Cussetah Indian Methodist

Big Cussetah will be having their Annual All You Can Eat Wild Onion Dinner, Saturday March 17 beginning at 11 a.m. \$7 all you can eat, \$7 for carry outs, \$3 for children 10 and under.

Big Cussetah is located 3 1/2 miles East of Okmulgee on Hwy 62 and 3 1/2 mile South on Prairie Bell Rd.

BIRTHS

Braden Tomas Ramirez

OKMULGEE — Braden Tomas Ramirez was born Oct. 19 at 12:21p.m. to Javier and Pandee Ramirez of Okmulgee. He weighed 9 lbs. and 5 oz. and was 21 inches in length. Maternal grandparents are Patrick and Jill Moore of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Raul and Albina Ramirez of Texas.



Nash Cordell Trickey

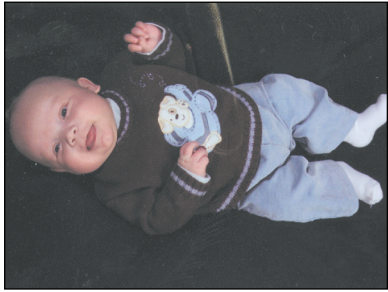
HERMITAGE, TN — Randall and Dolly Trickey of Nashville, TN, formerly of Muscogee, would like to announce the birth of their son on October 20, 2006.

Maternal grandparents are James Cowles of Haskell, and Lisa Moore and the late Don Moore of Muscogee.

Paternal grandparents are C.L. and Beth Trickey of Okemah. Maternal aunt Jayci Cowles of Haskell.

Maternal great-grand parents are Betty Smart and the late Jim Smart of Muscogee, OK; Ernest and Effie Cowles of Big Cabin, OK; Elizaabeth Sullivan and the late Louis Sullivan of Muscogee, OK; and the late William “Sonny” Smith of Coffeyville, KS.

Paternal great-grand parents are the late Siah Manley Foster, H.B. and Verva Trickey all of Okemah, OK.



BIRTHDAYS

Lance Geebon Nicholas Gouge

HENRYETTA — Lance Gouge celebrated his fifth birthday on Jan. 5 at his home with a “Happy Feet” theme. Those in attendance were his family and friends.

He is the son of Thompson “Geebon” and Jenna Gouge of Henryetta. Maternal grandparents are Johnny Boyce of Tulsa and Karen Robert-son of Beggs.

Paternal grandparents are the late Tom Gouge of Anadarko and the late Lutie Sue Gouge.

Lance is the great grandson of the late Sylvia and Carl Lee of Beggs, and the late Woodrow Gouge and the late Rhoda Fields.



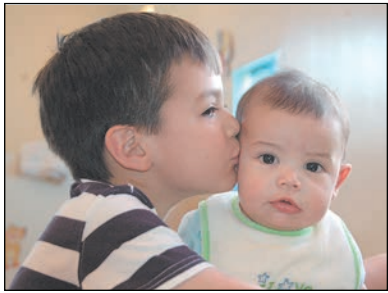
Esai Javier Ramirez

OKMULGEE — Esai Javier Ramirez celebrated his 4th birthday on Feb 23 with two parties.

Esai is the son of Javier and Pandee Ramirez.

The first party was at Muscogee (Creek) Nation Daycare with a CARS theme. Second party was held at his Nana and Pawpaw’s house. “Ben 10” was the theme and “Ben” was on his cake. In attendance was his little brother, Uncle J.J., Aunt May May, Nana, Pawpaw, and parents Javier and Pandee Ramirez.

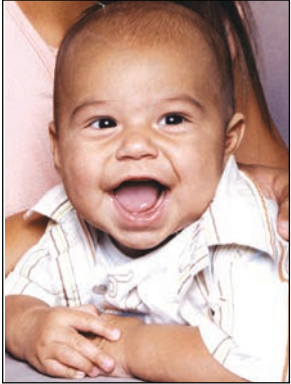
Maternal grandparents are Patrick and Jill Moore of Okmul-gee. Paternal grandparents are Raul and Albina Ramirez of Texas.



Michael Pascale Taylor

DEWAR — Michael Pascale Taylor celebrated his 1st birthday with family and friends on March 10, 2007 at the Dewar United Pentecostal Church with a Winnie The Pooh theme.

He is the son of Lucas and Stefanie Taylor of Henryetta. He has one sister, Alissa. Her maternal grandparents are the late Louise Rose Pulliam and Richard Wayne Pulliam of Dewar. Paternal grandparents are Sally and the late Walter Taylor Sr. of Ryal.



Addison Deo

OKMULGEE — Addison Deo celebrated her 1st birthday on March 9 with a “Princess” theme.

She is the daughter of Tina and Phillip Deo of Okmulgee.

In attendance was her parents, brother, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins and friends.

Maternal grandparents are Brenda and the late Elmer Jack.

Paternal grandparents are Bill Deo and the late Sandy Long.

Paternal great-grandparents are Louma and the late Mitchell Jack.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MSG Leonard Gouge

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN — MSG Leonard Gouge has been serv- ing in the Army stationed in Kabul, Afganistan for the past 10 months. Gouge received The Bronze Star Medal for Exceptionally Meritorious Ser- vice while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as Chief Instructor of the Drill Sergeant and Leadership Development Course for the Afghan National Army, NCO Leadership Academy of the Training Assistance Group, Task Force Phoenix, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan. MSG Gouge’s superior leadership and profes- sionalism enabled him to expertly mentor the NCO Cadre of the Afghan National Army. His performance of duty in a combat zone reflects great credit upon himself, “The Combined Security Transition Command-Af- ghanistan, The United States Central Command, and The United States Army. Signed Robert E. Durbin Major General, US Army Commanding and Frances J. Harvey, Secretary of the Army. Gouge is the son of Felix and Minnie Gouge of Oklahoma City. He is of the Deer Clan and from New Tulsa Tribal Town. Gouge will return home to his family and friends in April.



Dusty Todd

PORTER — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H program has really been a big help to a special young man from the “Peach Capital of Oklahoma.” Dusty Todd, who is a member of the local Porter Peach Capital 4-H Club has been wildly successful with his animals and Rick Clovis and the Creek Nation 4-H Depart- ment have been “awesome” with the way they have operated and with Clovis’ putting out the effort to relate to the program. Along the way the Creek Nation 4-H department has assisted Dusty in many of his livestock endeavors. Creek Nation added \$100 to his add-ons for the premium sale at the Wagoner County Junior Live- stock Show. The Creek Nation also contributed \$250 for Dusty’s animal purchase and another \$250 for his feed program, all pro- vided through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H program. Some of the results from recent competitions are a testament to how hard this young man has worked to be successful and how the Creek Nation 4-H program is helping their youth participants reach their goals.



Porter Livestock Show:

Market Whether Goat Division:

Reserve Grand Champion & 1st place with first goat

4th place with second goat

Swine Division:

Breed & 1st place with his

Poland Gilt

2nd place with Hamp Barrow

2nd place with Duroc Gilt

Jr. LivestWagoner County Livestock Show:

Market Whether Goat division:

3rd place with his Market whether goat

Swine Division:

Breed Champion & 1st- Poland Gilt

Muskogee Regional Jr Livestock Show

3rd place with his goat on Tuesday.

In addition to the previous accomplishments, Dusty also was able to make the Premium Sale Saturday night for the Muskogee Regional Livestock Show with his Reserve Breed Poland Gilt in the swine division. He also placed 8th on Friday with his Hamp Barrow which was also in the swine division. Dusty would like to send out a big thank you to the Muscogee Creek Nation 4-H program for their assistance with his livestock shows, with the feeding program and with the purchases. He believes in the Creek Nation 4-H program and the good work that Rick Clovis is doing with the department.



To announce a birth, birthday, accomplishment, wedding, or anniversary con- tact Starla Bush at (918)-732-7697 or by e-mail at sbush@ muscogeenation- nsn.gov. Also my mail at P.O. Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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Muscogee (Creek) officials call it real

“The game is easier when you understand the concept of the game. The fans, the kids, the atmosphere, you just got to love it. Despite of what people think of you and of how good of a job they think you did. As long as we’re comfortable with what we did when we walk off the court and you know did your best, but that’s what its all about.”

PRESTON — The Oklahoma High School Basketball season is at the height of its peak. It’s playoff time, district showdowns and area tournaments are all leading to one destination, the state championships.

March madness is alive and well right now. Visions of the movie *“Hoosiers,”* set in a small town in Indiana where the high school basketball team wins the state championship, are in the hopes and dreams of area schools everywhere that want to make it to the state fair arena. Regardless of the size of the school or how many titles have already been won, every team wants to keep advancing in the brackets and be able to say they are number one at the end of the year.

One highly talented Native American athlete by the name of Angel Godrich, hopes to lead the Tahlequah-Sequoyah Lady Indians toward a Oklahoma 3A State Championship threepeat. So many other Native American student/athletes who play for teams all over the state will also be vying for the gold ball.

In the midst of all the small and big gymnasiums, screaming fans, cheerleaders yelling and horns blowing will be people dressed in black and white stripes that are making sure their is order and direction to each game. They are the game officials or referees.

Two Muscogee (Creek) men will be a part of that special fraternity. The zebras use their best efforts to make sure the games are under control and are properly officiated. The two men are Travis Scott and Bruce Douglas.

Scott and Douglas are official High School referees with the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association (OSSAA). This weekend, which for them started Thursday, has been quite busy. They were officiating games down in Choctaw country, then on Friday they found themselves at Konawa. Finally on Saturday, the pair were blowing the whistle at the Preston High School gym in Creek country.

This night, the gym is packed, the local team which boasts of past state titles seems to have all the fan support of the entire county because their are no seats left in the stands.



Everyone stands as the National Anthem is sung and pre-game jitters take on a whole new high as each athlete knows the game-time is only seconds away. Scott and Douglas, like everyone else, watch the flag and in their own way prepare for what will really be for them the center stage. Nervousness doesn’t just affect the teams or the coaches, but referees can be involved as well. This night, will it affect Scott and Douglas? The answer is no. The two are not freshmen on the court, they know what’s involved and what they must do.

Both have many years of officiating experience, Scott has thirteen, and Douglas has twelve. In fact, Douglas started to officiate just fresh out of college and then for five years became a High School basketball coach before returning to officiate. Douglas, who has played basketball his entire life, knew that he would be involved with the sport in some capacity.

Douglas and Scott have worked a lot together during the season, but not because they are both of Indian descent. “It just depends on the assignment or games you get that week,” explains Douglas who also says the officiating season can be quite a traveling experience. “One



Bruce Douglas and Travis Scott

day you can find yourself out in western Oklahoma and then the next night you might just be a few minutes from home, but that’s the life of a referee. We get used to it and we like it.” Scott agrees, “The traveling does sometimes take away family time and other events you may have planned during the week so you definitely have to juggle your schedule around.”

This playoff weekend found the two working together which has been the case for several games during the season. Statistics were not available at press time, but Scott and Doulgas are not the only Native American officials in the state of Oklahoma.

There are many, but they rarely have an opportunity to work together. “There are a lot of Native American referees out there,” explains Douglas, “Travis

and I have worked together a few times this year and for the playoffs will mark our third time working together. Actually our third consecutive time working together, which really, is unique, I don’t think the Association pairs you up with someone that you have worked a lot with during the season and then for the playoffs.”

Scott and Douglas do like the chance to work together. Like any good team, they know how the other works. It can help make the difference between a good pace and rhythm of the game, as well as the overall communication of the game itself. Before the National Anthem and all the fanfare begins, Scott and Douglas can be seen busily conversing and finding out exactly where each one will be. They make sure that they are not on the exact same side of the court.

The game though will define itself, depending on how teams decide to play the game. Will it be a physical one, or a faster, more up-tempo type game. The two teams playing tonight are Preston and Warner in the girls game while the

boys game has Preston against Haywood. Both games are in the regional finals of the Class 2A division. These two teams have faced each other before, but that was during the regular season.

But the playoffs are here and the excitement, competition, and determination are just a little bit higher for all teams. That means that Douglas and Scott have got to be on their toes even more, which is what it would seem to the audience. But the two always approach each game with the same philosophy, total focus and seriousness. They have to, because the business of calling games can make you a villain or everybody’s best friend. So the intensity level will be the same whether the game is the first of the season or one that is coming down to the stretch. The same, though can go for the mentality of the fan as well. It doesn’t matter what time of the year the game is played the fan level can be just as intensified as the one before it. Usually with that mentality, the scapegoats are the referees. Scott and Douglas have seen it before and have faced the music and handled it in their own unique way.

Douglas recalls one game that he was calling in which the audience participation was quite vocal because their team was losing. “There was one man that kept yelling and was protesting every call I made,” recalls Doulgas. “The protesting didn’t stop, even after the game continued. In fact, it went the entirety of the game. Immediately after the contest, the irate fan approached Douglas and said ‘you can’t call it that way!’ Douglas said all he could do was respond by saying, I just did.”

The two do admit that they have had to defend their calls and to do their fair share of throwing out a player or coach because of unsportsmanlike conduct. They even take the occasional joke or ribbing about needing eye-glasses in good humor. But as in all things, they know its just part of the job, so they take the good with the bad.

When the final buzzer has sounded and the crowd has began to disperse. Scott and Douglas begin to start thinking about their other life, the one away from the basketball court. Each man has a family as well other professional duties.

Besides the added responsibilities of blowing a whistle and an occasional

technical call or two, Scott and Douglas both serve their tribe. Scott is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Douglas is the Curriculum Specialist and Recruiter for the College of the Muscogee Nation. As far as being freshmen in any endeavor, it is in these areas for the two because this is the first year for both to serve in these fields. “At this stage, council business and my job take priority,” explains Scott, “but I do allow myself time to officiate.”

“I do my job and this is what I love to do on the side,” says Douglas. “I did say that it did used to be my job but my job with the Creek Nation tribal college is really unique. I just started back in September and coming from a public school setting has been really nice because I am still working with kids. That’s one reason he (Scott) and I are in this business. We enjoy the game and love working with kids.”

Back to the games, especially the playoffs, Scott and Douglas both know that this time of the year their calls are especially watched because of the playoff factor. They know it’s a chance for each school to really show just how good they really are. No matter how much the breaks may have been against them, or the ball didn’t bounce their way, they still have a chance to go far in the playoffs. That is as long as they keep winning.

Now here is where fans can get really caught into the game. Sometimes what the crowd feels is a questionable call by the officials can make all the difference in the world, whether the team continues on to the top, or says goodbye for the year. It’s an understatement to say officiating can be stressful, but when you talk to Scott and Douglas, there is no other place that they would rather be. The basketball atmosphere for them is what makes the world go round.

“I enjoy doing it,” says Scott who also admits that he enjoys being around



the coaches. “Not all the coaches are adamant about getting on to you the entire evening. When you have a good partner that you have worked with for the year it make s the game a lot easier and a lot more enjoyable.”

“I love basketball,” says Douglas, “It’s a part of my life. I coached at the high school level for five years, A lot of these coaches I know because I coached against them in high school. It gives me an opportunity to talk about past

games and the atmosphere, especially at this time, the playoff time. Every time we blow a whistle the crowd is going to be into it and watch us. But that’s not why we’re here. We try to stay in the background as much as possible.”

Scott feels the same. “This is my thirteenth year in officiating. I played basketball in high school and in college. The game is easier when you understand the concept of the game. The fans, the kids, the atmosphere, you just got to love it, despite of what people think of you and of how good of a job they think you did. As long as we’re comfortable with what we did when we walk off the court and you know you did your best, that’s what its all about.”

Scott’s family is from the Wetumka-Weleetka area and he resides in the Okemah. His parents are Betty and the late Jesse Scott.

Douglas grew up in the Mason area. His parents are Geneva and Harry Douglas who still reside in the Mason area. Douglas lives in the Eufaula area.

Chances are you will see Scott and Douglas making the calls on the hardwood for this special time of the year called March Madness. If you see them make what you feel is a questionable call, try not to be so hard on them, after all they are two Muscogee (Creek) referees doing what they love and are doing as great a job as anyone else.

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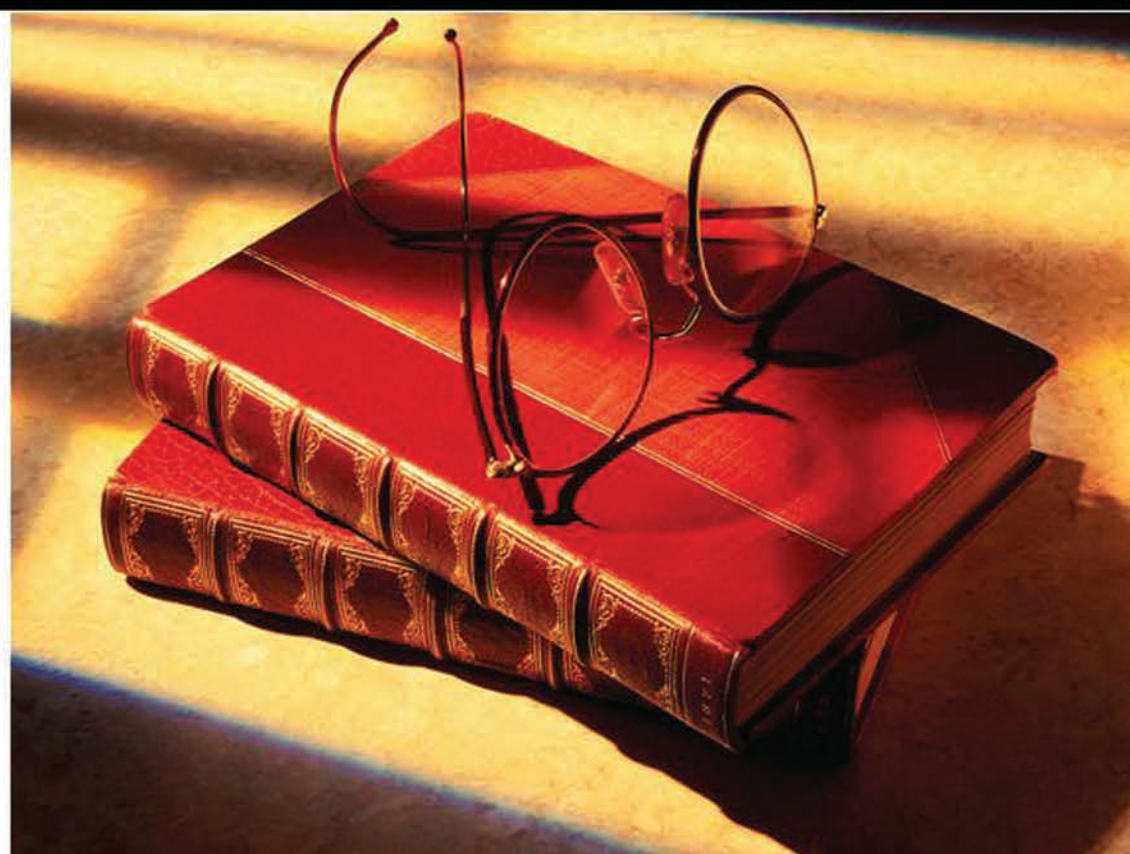
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ANGELA BUNNER OR BRUCE DOUGLAS.

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Native Values.*

Cecil Bruner

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral Services for Cecil Bruner were held January 24, at the Stout-Phillips Funeral Chapel with his grandson Reverend Brandon Kemble officiating.

Cecil was born on August 15, 1918 in Seminole County to Grant and Louysa Bruner.

He and Lucinda Mae Frank married and she preceded him in death.

He was a cook at Berry’s Waffle House for over 21 years and a deacon at Middle Creek #2 Baptist Church.

His hobbies included cooking and fishing.

Robert Frye

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Robert Frye were held on March 6, at the home of May Frye with Reverend Amon Harjo officiating.

He was born on April 1, 1950 in Tahlequah to May and Harbie Frye Sr., He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam era.

He was preceded in death by his father Harbie Frye, Sr. on August 28, 2003.

Survivors included his mother May Frye, of the home; five sisters: Mary Frye of Bristow, Patricia Frye of Henryretta, Fannie Frye of Henryretta, Carol Emmit Frye and husband of Dewar, Freda Fields and husband Alexander of Okmulgee; five brothers: Johnny Frye of Del City, William Frye of Henryretta, Harbie Frye Jr. and wife Cheryl of Guthrie, James Frye of Henryretta, Samuel Frye of Henryretta; one son, Brandon Frye of Henryretta; on daughter, Lori Frye of Tulsa; as well as a host of friends and other relatives.

Pallbearers included William Frye, Harbie Frye, Jr., James Frye, Samuel Frye, Craig Vaughan, and Jason Waquie.

Honorary Pallbearers were nephews. Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery with full military honors provided by the Creek Nation Honor Guard.

Thompson Gouge

MT. VIEW — Funeral Services for Thompson Gouge were held on March 9 at Indian Nations Ministries with Revs. Neil Sander, Sam Proctor and Tom Wooster officiating.

He was born July 17, 1936 to Woodrow and Rhoda Fields Gouge and passed away on March 5.

Thompson graduated from Sequoyah Indian School and attended Haskell Trade Institution in Lawrence, KS. He served in the U.S. Army National Guard. He was united in marriage to Lutie Goombi with whom he had four children. He worked as a property and supply clerk for the Riverside Indian School, worked for Sequoia Mills, and in his early years worked as a Rancher, was a volunteer at the Southwest Medical Center in Lawton and was an ordained minister.

He enjoyed bead work, leather work, hunting, fishing, dominoes and telling stories. Tom was united in marriage to Shirley Waqua on June 2, 2000 in Binger. He was the founder of Master for Pack #327. Tom was involved with EIC Exploration and Creativity serving and an instructor, and also helped with the Hasinai of the Caddo Nation. He was a member of the Indian Nation Ministries in Anadarko.

Gouge was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Eddie Gouge; wife, Lutie Ahgoom Goombi Gouge; two sisters, Wynonna Glass and Irene Gouge; three brothers, David Gouge, Johnny Gouge and Jack Gouge.

Thompson is survived by wife, Shirley Gouge of the home; three children, Cindi Fletcher and husband Clyde of Irving, TX, Don Gouge and wife Lynn of Anadarko, Thompson Gouge Jr. and wife Jenna of Henryretta. Seven grandchildren, David, Jimmy, Mikala, Hanna, Maddie Sue and Lance Gouge and Jeremy Stockham; one great grandchild, Aimee Gouge; five sisters, Wynetta Posey of Wetumka; Missy Mitchell of Del City, Edna Gouge of Okemah, Linda Harjo of Oklahoma City and Maxine Watkins of Chickasha; three brothers, Marge Gouge and George Gouge both of Oklahoma City and Randy Gouge of Dustin.

Charlie Hicks

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Charlie Joe “Speedy” Hicks were held on February 27 at the Tallahassee Church.

Charlie was born on November 17, 1947 in Claremore to Henry Hicks, Sr. and

Bernice Simmers Hicks. He married Lois Simmers on February 22, 1990 in Shawnee.

He enjoyed animals and yard work. He was preceded in death by his parents; two children: Sarah Hicks and Tobias Hicks; and two siblings Allene Hicks and Larry Bruce Hicks.

Survivors included his wife Lois of the home; three children: Charlie Hicks Jr., John Hicks, and Joseph Hicks; five siblings: Henry Hicks, Jr., Georgia Starr and husband Raymond French, Elaine Hicks, Karen Penny Hicks, and Kathleen Gail Hicks; seven grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Interment was at the Tallahassee Cemetery.

Thomas Lindsey

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Thomas J. Lindsey were held on February 15, at the Schumacher Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Harry Anderson and Reverend Wayne Harjo officiating.

Thomas was born on April 29, 1940 in Hanna to Amy (Josey) and Columbia Lindsey.

He joined the military in 1959 and became a member of the 95th Division of the U.S. Army.

After his military service, he returned to the local area and became a member of the Sand Creek Church.

Thomas married Alice Mae Buckley on September 13, 1972.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Colleen in 1980; brother Lewis Lindsey; a half brother Freeman Harjo; and two sisters: Ruby Steward and Mary Coonhead

Survivors included his wife Alice of the home; Michael J. Lindsey of Bristow; Thomas Philip Lindsey of Konawa; Daughter Leslie and her husband Simon Hicks of Tulsa; and step-daughters Carmella Christine and husband Berry Cook of Kellyville, Patricia Ann Lindsey of Tecumseh and Patti Ann Pinnell of Miller, MO.; Sister

Nanny Scott of Bristow; 11 grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and a host of other relative and friends.

Interment was at the Buckley Family Cemetery.

Billy Scott

HANNA — Funeral services for Billy D. Scott were held November 13, 2006 at the Hillabee Baptist Church.

Billy went to school in Oklahoma City and then to Jones Academy in Horthorne, and then enlisted in the U. S. M. C. for six years.

He became an active member of Hillabee Baptist Church and a deacon in training for five years.

He was preceded in death by his brothers: George Lee Scott, Robert Scott, Samuel Scott Jr., and Randy Scott; sisters: Elizabeth Meely, and Mabel Scott; brother-in-laws: Leo Wise and Mickey Factor.

Survivors included Brothers: Wilson Scott of Oklahoma City, Anthony Scott of Tahlequah, Chris Mitchell of Ponca City, and Jimmy Wallace of Oklahoma City; sisters: Sallie Wise of Hanna, Minnie Wouqua of Hulbert, Lydia Ester Factor of Tahlequah; a favorite aunt Susie Simpson of Yearer; One sister- in-law Leah Scott of Oklahoma City; Brother-in-laws Dewitt Meely of Oklahoma City and Wayne Wouqua of Hulbert; 10 nieces, 14 nephews, and numerous relatives.

Interment was at the Hillabee Cemetery.

District Court

continued from A2

MCN v. Ronald Mullenax
MCN v. Jared Clemons
MCN v. Chad Cagle
MCN v. Sandy Evans
MCN v. Deborah Sisco
MCN v. Deborah Sisco
MCN v. Norman Mitchell
MCN v. Norman Mitchell
MCN v. Timothy Snow
MCN v. Jeremy Ward
MCN v. Jeremy Ward
MCN v. Jeremy Ward
MCN v. Becerra Oritz
MCN v. Roy Hendrix
MCN v. Vic Blair
MCN v. Julia Ficken
MCN v. Julia Ficken
MCN v. Leonor Flores
MCN v. Leonor Flores
MCN v. Leonor Flores
MCN v. Wanda Sumner
MCN v. Wanda Sumner
MCN v. Michael Frampton
MCN v. Michael Frampton
MCN v. Michael Frampton
MCN v. Charise Reynolds
MCN v. Charise Reynolds
MCN v. Charise Reynolds
MCN v. Brandon Adrock
MCN v. Brandon Adrock
MCN v. Jennifer Mays
MCN v. John Hamilling
MCN v. Theresa Wilson
MCN v. Theresa Wilson
MCN v. Zachary Bruzzini

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Elwood Sulphur

EUFULA — Funeral services for Elwood Leo Sulphur were held

Elwood was born on December 9, 1940 in Eufaula.

He attended Mt. View School to the 8th grade and transferred to Eufaula High School where he graduated in 1959. He played football for the eufaula Ironheads as a lineman.

He joined the Oklahoma Army National Guards in the early 60’s and received his training at Fort Leonardwood, Missouri.

He worked and learned the Horticulture trade in Tulsa, in which he used the trade to work in many nurseries and landscaping jobs.

His hobbies included watching the Eufaula Ironheads, being outside, and planting flowers.

He was preceded in death by his mother Eleanor Brown Sulphur, father Woodrow Wilson Sulpur Sr.; one younger brother Emmanuel “Manny” Sulphur; his beloved grandmother Salanie Mitchell.

Survivors included his two brothers: Leroy Sulpur and Woodrow Sulphur Jr., both of Eufaula; six sisters: Louella Niswonger of Sepastepol, CA., Chanenna Davis of Hanna, Patricia Belford of Oklahoma City, and Sandra Goddard of Newkirk; eight nieces, six nephews, eight great nieces, nine great nephews, and a host of relatives and friends.

Interment followed at the West Eufaula Indian Cemetery.



Scott



Gouge



Lindsey



Sulphur

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Featured Artist:
Kenneth Johnson



Creek Wrestler makes second straight trip to State tournament



Creek athlete prepares for upcoming softball season at Bacon College



Story of basketball’s first world champions to hit the silver screen

• Top Scoring Native American Girls’ Basketball Team Wins at 1904 World’s Fair

SEATTLE, WA — Minnie Burton was a sensation at the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair: the top shooter for a girl’s basketball team from an Indian School in Fort Shaw, Montana. Beating all other high school girls and boys teams, they rounded up legions of adoring fans across the nation as they won the first world championship title for basketball.

Shoot Minnie Shoot, a novel by Happy Jack Feder, has been optioned and is in development for feature film production by the Seattle office of creative and production company, Touch. The film “Shoot Minnie Shoot” is based on the true story of Basketball’s First World Champions and follows the improbable journey of Minnie and this sensational Native American girls team of 1904. It is the story of one girl’s vision and her struggle to bring pride back to her people..

“It’s a terrific story that is both improbable and true,” says author and screenplay writer Feder. “The amazing accomplishments of these brave, beautiful and ferocious girls are an inspiration to girls and young women of all races.”

At a time when most Indian Schools used cruel and degrading practices, Fort Shaw’s headmaster, Mr. Campbell, created an environment of respect and compassion. Enthusiastic for the new game of basketball, he taught the girls to play Men’s Rules - - and they took it from there. Whenever Minnie got the ball, the crowd would chant, “Shoot Minnie Shoot”.

The girls did to racism what they did to their opponents on the



court; they trampled all over it. It didn’t slow them down for a second. They were widely accepted and adored by the white community, both in Montana and at the World’s Fair. They proudly displayed their Native American heritage while excelling in their studies of western culture. They played fiercely on the court, but were the epitome of lady hood when reciting poetry

or playing classical music. “Minnie” follows our namesake from the confines of her reservation to life at an Indian School, learning to play basketball, and going on to be crowned one of the First World Champions of Basketball at the 1904 World’s Fair in St. Louis. “Minnie will be an exciting and inspirational film. We are immensely

proud to be a part of it.” said Barry Caillier, Producer at Touch.

For more information about the film, visit: www.shootminnieshoot.com or contact Barry Caillier directly at (206) 749-0304 and e-mail barry@shootminnieshoot.com.

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MUSIC: Jana Ulali

Native American legends have become as much a part of American culture as apple pie. One such legend tells of a Native princess who came in peace and brought victory for her people.

Native American by birth and heritage, contemporary artist through hard work, destiny and the spirits, Jana’s fresh new face and exotic style brings pop music to a new level. Jana refers to her cultural anomaly as “Urban Indian”. This is only a part of her mysterious allure. Her striking looks, and powerful voice coupled with the explosive rhythms of pop, dance, urban and gospel create an incredible new mix of music that seduces your ear and overwhelms your senses.

Jana’s first single was What I Am To You, which went Top Forty on the Radio & Records’ rhythmic chart. Her follow up, Ooh, Baby, Baby, a high-energy dance record with a futuristic edge, was an immediate success on radio and in the R&R, DMA, Hitmakers, and Gavin charts. Billboard Magazine named Ooh, Baby, Baby pop single of the week.

More Than Life was her next single. Remixed by legendary MTV DJ Skribble and Anthony Acid, the record became one of the biggest dance records of last year. Her live performances following the release of that record have sold out venues across the country and left her fans wanting more. Jana received the prestigious Nammy Award for Best Pop Performer of 2001-2002 for More Than Life.

Jana’s next release was an extraor-

dinary remake of Stairway to Heaven on Radical Records. With remixes by some of the most talented producers in the world, her single won Song of the Year at the 2002 Nammy’s. The follow up, Found a Love was National Sales Breakout Single in Billboard Magazine and gained Jana an unprecedented



third Nammy in 2003 for ‘Female Artist of the Year.’

Now Jana is about to release her first album after signing to Ministry of Sound Records in Germany. She also will be featured in her first major motion picture entitled Pocket Angel. Another important part of Jana’s life is her own Jana’s Kids organization, founded by her to help Native American youth achieve the successes they dream of.

Jana’s Native American ancestry is reflected in her exotic presence. A member of the Lumbee tribe, the second largest tribe

east of the Mississippi River, she honors her Native traditions by incorporating aspects of her culture into her everyday life. Jana states that “being an ‘Urban Indian’ is to walk in both worlds but not compromise my cultural identity. I cannot ignore who I am and where I came from. I am proud that I can maintain my traditional customs while living in today’s world.”

Heavily influenced by Native traditions, Jana incorporates much of her cultural heritage into her musical persona and her unique sense of style. Her flair for fashion has been featured in numerous publications including In Style, Gotham, Glamour and The New York Times. She is actively involved in tribal ceremonies and celebrations, including traditional Native dancing and singing, influences of which can be heard in her music and seen in her performances. “The true soul of my music reflects all aspects of my cultures.”

Drawing from diverse musical influences to create a fresh perspective on pop music today, Jana reveals her personal style through her extraordinary musical talents. She is not representative of any one world, just as her music is a collage of multi-cultural influences. Instead, Jana embodies a synthesis of the modern world and her own ethnic background. With her exotic image and progressive sound, Jana just might be what the legend is all about.

“She walks in beauty in two worlds.” - Lumbee proverb

AUTHORSPOTLIGHT

Cynthia L. Smith

Like Rain, author Cynthia Leitch Smith was raised, at least in part, in northeastern Kansas. Smith attended college in Douglas County, the home of fictional Hannesburg, and completed a journalism degree at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. During college, she worked at a few small-town newspapers as a reporter. Then she earned a law degree at the University of Michigan. Today she lives in Austin, Texas, with her husband and two gray tabby cats. She’s a mixed blood, enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Cynthia Smith is also the author of the picture book Jingle Dancer, which Publishers Weekly called a “heartening portrait of a harmonious meshing of old and new”

In Her Own Words

I’m a mid-to-southwestern kind of gal. Growing up, I lived in the Kansas City area, on both the Kansas and Missouri sides of the state line, and as I grew older, I lived in Oklahoma, Michigan, and Illinois. Today Austin, Texas, is my home.

I was an only child, whose constant companions were a dog named Sir Gahald XIII (but called “Tramp”) and an array of library books.

I developed an interest in reading at an early age, and won my local public library reading contest in Grandview, Missouri, when I was in the third grade. Some of my favorite books were Are You There God? It’s Me, Margaret by Judy Blume; and Bridge to Terabithia by Kath-

erine Paterson. Through reading I cultivated a desire to write, and published my first piece in the “Dear Gaby” column in the sixth-grade paper.

My interest in writing continued through high school, during which I edited the newspaper and pursued both dancing and cheerleading. After finishing high school in 1986, I went on to become the first person in my family to graduate from college. There I spent much of my time writing as a minority issues reporter for the campus newspaper and eventually completed my undergraduate studies in 1991 with a degree in journalism.

I never thought of writing and reading fiction as a viable career option, and so I finished law school in 1994, where I had been president of the Native American Law Student’s Association. For a while I worked in a federal law job in Chicago, but I was bored. I decided that in order to be happy I needed to turn to something that not only mattered to me, but also affected others in a positive way. So I quit my job and embarked on a new career as a children’s author

What I enjoy most about writing are the challenges. I like writing for different genres, and have so far written a picture book, a chapter book, and a middle-grade novel. Truthfully, I just want to continue improving. Once I create my characters, they begin to fashion the setting and plot around themselves. I assume very little at the beginning, and am always surprised by what I find.

I know that people often characterize my stories as “Native American” or of some similar nature and that’s fine for reference purposes, but I intend for my books to go deeper than that. I try to weave real life into the stories naturally, helping me to attain my goal of offering a unique cultural and literary world through characters that laugh, cry, breathe, and, most importantly, live.



Ted Isham

Creek Council House Museum

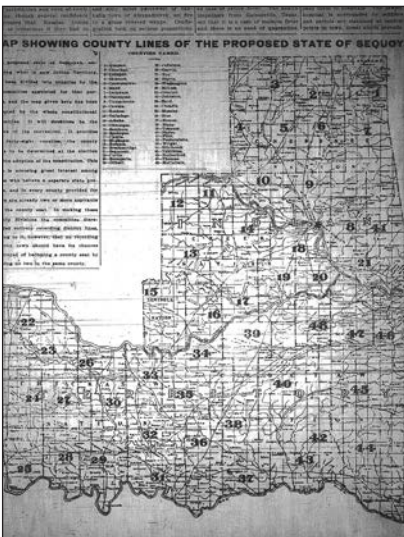
Curator

This month's topic from the Creek Council House Museum will be about the Creek view of the state's centennial celebration that is ongoing this year. This event has the many 'newcomers' of this state celebrating while many of the 'placed here' people are understandably reluctant to participate in the revelry. History has a way of telling the story of the conquerors with the conquered voice being lost to the mists of time. Now can be our moment to let everyone know that we are not conquered, that we have not evaporated into the mists of time and that we are still here.

As we experience this 100th year of statehood, we can look back to remember that there were many governments and people who were in operation in the Indian Territory. This was a place that was forced upon us 'to be ours forever' so the treaties said, which did not take long to be wrested from us by land hungry settlers of an expansionist era. We here in the Creek Nation had a resurgent and prospering lifestyle before statehood. We took a foreign land and made it work for us, we made this place home. The events leading to statehood changed all of that.

The Council House is a monument to the era of prosperity before statehood. The fact that this structure is still standing is a testament to the enduring power of the people who built it. Now we can look back and mark those events that brought us to this moment in time. We can look back at events such as the Allotments, the post Civil War expansionism, the discovery of oil, the Indian State of Sequoyah, and we can look at the antithesis of all that was happening, the Smoked Meat Rebellion and the Snake Rebellion. The Creek leader Chitto Harjo represented this antithesis in his 'Snakes Rebellion', which opposed the allotments and rejected the changes brought about by the 'newcomers', called 'boomers' and 'sooners'.

The Creek Council House Museum will be looking back at this time period to give a factual account of the some of the events leading up to statehood. We intend to show that there is another side to the statehood story, one that has been overlooked by the larger population. The facts of the Snakes movement will be showcased in a traveling photo exhibit being developed here at the museum. Chitto Harjo can be seen as a hero even though his efforts were



not entirely successful -- his message is still relevant as we struggle to maintain our sovereignty.

The exhibit 'Chitto Harjo and his Snakes, a look at pre-statehood activities' has been designated as a centennial project in which the other side of the mainstream story will be told. We do this to give a counter-point and educate those who may not know how come we are not celebrating this 100 year event. In this exhibit we will look at the factors that lead a small group of traditionalists to question the direction that the United States government and the Tribe itself were going. We will see how earlier promises were made and then abandoned. The exhibit will debut during the Creek Festival in June, where it will be on display at the Creek Council House Museum then will travel to other venues. The other venues have yet to be determined, but we are looking to house the exhibit for short periods all throughout Creek Nation boundaries.

Even though this is an official centennial project, it is in no way celebratory of the State's 100 year observance. It is in fact a counter-point to that moment. This is our unspoken truth..... pomMvhenwvt os ci!

Featured Artist: Kenneth Johnson

Renowned for his exquisite collection of jewelry and decor, Kenneth Johnson possesses a knowledge of precious metals and stones that sets him at the forefront of this generation of metal-smiths. His technical proficiency is complemented by a constant pursuit of creative innovation in the use of metal.

Specializing in stampwork and texturing on coins and precious metals, Johnson takes a judicious, painterly approach to the use of stones. The highlight of his newest creations are spectacular faceted and cabochon stones mined from the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona, such as peridot, andradite, chrome pyrope & green druzi.

Currently based in New Mexico--the heart of Indian country--Johnson was raised in Oklahoma and educated in local Indian boarding schools. In 1988, he moved to New Mexico where he apprenticed with a Choctaw metalsmith who taught him the foundation of silversmithing--basics which he, in turn, independently refined into the level of expertise that he is known for today.

In may of Johnson's pieces, you will



Johnson

see reflections of his Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole Indian heritage, specifically in those patterns featuring imagery from ancient mound builder culture and other Native American motifs, which he then transforms into a surprisingly contemporary abstract form. By rendering his compositions in a combination of metals and stones, he continues a long tradition of inventive design in Native American jewelry.

"I enjoy creating objects that are both beautiful and practical. There are so many facets to consider in a piece of jewelry--the weight..the materials used...the color...texture...the meaning of the design...sentimental value and wearability. All are factors that make it possible to appreciate my pieces."

"If you think of a piece of metal jewelry without stones, it is like a black & white photo; the addition of stones unto the piece transforms it into a color photograph. They both have their place."



Cahcakwv

with textured foreground replicating the

Upcoming Events:

Submitted by Ted Isham

Save the date, June 7-8, 2007!

The Creek Council House Museum and the Creek Nation's administration office are looking for competitors to compete for a chance to travel and compete in Cherokee, North Carolina at the gathering of South-eastern Tribes. We will want to send the best of our Tribe to compete against the others of the Five Tribes.

Last year, several groups of Creek artists, athletes and demonstrators hastily gathered to travel to the hills of the Cherokee people. We went there to help celebrate with many others of the tribes of the Southeast. We also went to showcase the Creek culture and we went to compete with our neighboring tribes in the homelands.

The time is rapidly approaching to gather the best that Creek culture, arts and athleticism has to offer and showcase ourselves again. The Creek Council House Museum along with the Creek Nation Tribe will be actively recruiting the athletes, the artists and citizens to make up a contingent to return to the Eastern Cherokee reservation.



Last year's demonstration for Creek Culture

There will be opportunities for artists to go with us to compete in an art show and be able to sell their work. There will also be opportunity for athletes such as runners to race, archers to shoot and dart blowers to shoot darts. To send our best, the Creek Council House Museum will conduct a qualifying contest to select the ones to go to Cherokee, North Carolina and compete. Those selected will compete for prize money given by the Gathering of Southeastern Tribes event in Cherokee, NC. Check out their website for details of this event at http://www.cherokeemuseum.org/html/visitor_events.html

Call the CCHM to be put on the list if you are; a long (6 mile)/or short distance runner, an archer either traditional or modern, a blowgun shooter or an artist of any medium. We will be setting the date for these qualifying events and will contact those on the list. Contact us at the Museum at 918-756-2324 and we will put your name on the Gathering of Southeastern Tribes list.

Upcoming Artshows

Gilcrease Museum - Traditional Pottery class

Dates: Thursday evenings: 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. March 15, 22, & 29th.
Potluck and wood firing at my home: On March 31st. Contact Lanette Coppage - Direct of Ed - icppage@gilcrease.org

Great Falls Native American Art Show

The Great Falls Native American Art Show is over twenty years old and is sponsored by the Great Falls Native American Art Association. The show will feature over 22 Native American artists. A \$2 donations is suggested.

The Native American Art Show will open on Thursday at 6 p.m. till 9 p.m. an will open again on Friday and Saturday at 10 a.m. and will close at 9 p.m. Sunday hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The juror for this year's Main Art Show, Alden Archamboult, was last year's Best of Show winner. His selection for Best of Show this year will be juror next year.

As with any juried show the principles of art sre strongly considered. In addition to the main art show there will be a Native American student art show from surrounding schools.

For more information call (406) 453-9980 or (406) 761-6251 or toll free at 800-238-9980. Mailing address: P.O. Box 945; Great Falls, MT 59405.

18th Annual Invitational Native American Arts Festival

March 30 - April 1
Clark County Museum in Henderson, NV.
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Adult \$5; Children 3 - 15 \$3; Children under 3 are free.

This annual festival highlights the history and artistry of Native American cultures and includes the Native American Craft Market that features invited artists and demonstrators across the Southwest and across the artistic spectrum, and provides continuous Native American dance and music in the Performance Area.

3rd Annual Southwest Indian Arts Festival

May 5-6, 2007, open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Discover the splendor and tradition of American Indian culture at this great event for the whole family.

Stage shows feature authentic Indian dancers and musicians throughout the weekend. Dozens of Indian artisans fill booths with quality artwork, pottery, carvings, jewelry, weaving, and other creations.

Scrumptious frybread and Navajo tacos are served up to keep you going through the lunch hour.

The Children's Craft Area offers games, activities, and crafts for children of all ages. And the Museum's gift shop offers a special discount for Museum members, so it's a great time to join, too!

Identity by Design

Information provided by National Museum of the American Indian Identity by Design to Open in Washington D.C., on March 24, 2007

The newest exhibition at the NMAI Mall Museum in Washington, D.C., Identity by Design: Tradition, Change, and Celebration in Native Women's Dresses, will bring together a vast array of dresses and accessories from the Plains, Plateau, and Great Basin regions of the United States and Canada. Over 50 breathtaking dresses and ensembles including shawls, moccasins, and leggings will tell the story of change and continuity in the lives of Native women from the 19th century to the present.

Current NMAI Members at the Everglades Circle (\$50) level and above who



Picture provided by: National Museum of the American Indian

live in the Washington, D.C., region will receive an invitation to an exclusive Members-only reception to be held in late March in celebration of the opening of Identity by Design. Join or renew online at \$50 or more by March 9 to receive an invitation to this and select future events for NMAI Members. For more information, please contact NMAImember@si.edu. (Please note that to offset the high cost of hosting these popular events, a ticket price is also charged.)

For more information about the exhibition Identity by Design and related public programs, please visit the Washington, D.C., Exhibitions page.

Artrain now open for tours

Traveling art museum is housed in five rail cars, with an interactive area, an artist studio, gift shop and staff administrative space.

The art museum travels the country on rails. It has made a pit stop in Bonita Springs.

Artrain, which consist of five vintage railcars, arrived in Bonita Springs Riverside Park earlier this week. On Thursday morning, Artrain opened to the public for tours throughout the weekend.

Inside the cars, people will find a mini-museum showcasing the works of 54 Native American artists in an exhibit called "Native Views: Influenced of Modern Culture," working artists like Bonita Springs Art League member Sandi Paniccia, train memorabilia, Native American books, magazines and posters and even some small toys for the kids.

Bonita Springs resident Paul Schlotter, 80, was one of the first people through the exhibit.

"It's different," said Schlotter. "I'd definitely recommend it."



Picture provided by Artrain website

Nearly all the works reflect how modern culture has impacted Native American art -- from paintings to sculpture to photography. Some of the works are visually stunning such as a small Native American girl clutching a Speak & Spell and a basket made from film.

"It's quite interesting and different," said Bonita Springs resident Diane Kendall. "I've never been on an Artrain before. What's great about this is that this travels to places where there aren't many art museums."

Nathan Zamarron, the tour manager for Artrain, explained Artrain was formed in 1971 by the Michigan Council for the Arts as a short-term project to bring fine art to communities that lack quality art museums.

"The response to it was so great that the National Endowment for the Arts turned it into a national program," Zamarron said. "This is our 17th traveling exhibit."

For Tour Schedule or more information visit www.artrainusa.org

SHEER MADNESS!

• **Month of March ushers in basketball talent from five different states for Oklahoma’s best All-Indian Tournament**

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

HENRYETTA — Madness [mad-nis] - *noun; a state of intense excitement or enthusiasm.*

This is the given definition of the word if you look in most dictionaries. But to anyone who has taken in the 4 Love of the Game All-Indian March Madness tournament since it’s inception in 2004, that diagnosis may seem like an understatement.

“I’ve been to a lot of tournaments, even took a team to New York,” said Tim Cumby, who brought his Mississippi Choctaw squad to last year’s event. “But this one is the best. We’ve been treated great, and the atmosphere is second to none.”

This year’s event will kick off March 21 at the Henryetta Inn and Dome, with Bacone College hosting a college prep seminar from 1-5 p.m. There’s also a little time for some fun before the competition kicks off, with a welcome party and an X-Box 360 Basketball tournament. From there, it’s all business as teams will kick off the pool play format of the tourney on Thursday. Pool play will wrap up on Friday afternoon and the gym will be cleared for the All-Star activities including the East/West game, the team ball competition, three point shoot-out and the wildly popular slam dunk contest. “The whole weekend kind of has an NBA All-Star feel to it, and that makes it fun for the kids and the crowd,” said Lucas Taylor, founder of 4 Love of the Game and the tournament’s coordinator.

At the conclusion of Friday’s competition, teams will be seeded into Saturday’s single-elimination March Madness



style tournament. “Those games are fun to watch,” said Taylor. “The winner goes on and the loser goes home.” All the teams on Saturday will be vying for the coveted Gold Ball, which signifies a March Madness championship. Some pretty impressive names have hoisted the trophy in the past including Tahlequah Sequoyah superstar Angel Goodrich and current Oklahoma

Sooner stand-out Jenna Plumley. “That’s one of the things that sets us apart,” said Taylor. “The talent level that competes here, is just tremendous.”

Another thing that sets this tournament apart, is that it’s not just about basketball. In addition to the college prep seminar on opening day, there is an awards banquet on the final day. During the awards banquet

the participants are not only rewarded for their play, but are also provided with priceless opportunities through the awarding of scholarships. Eleven different scholarships will be awarded that will total close to \$80,000 towards a first-rate education.

“It’s always been a priority to help our youth,” said George Tiger. Tiger serves as Speaker of the Muscogee Creek National

RAISING THE GOLD

The Third Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament was highlighted with the crowning of the girls champions led by Oklahoma’s best high school girls basketball player Angel Goodrich of Tahlequah Sequoyah. In last year’s final Angel and Oklahoma freshman Jenna Plumley competed against each other in a nail bitter in the finals. The tournament has become the hot bed for outstanding Native American student/athletes from all over the United States to showcase their athletic skills.

(See C4 for a schedule of events)

Council, which is a major contributor to the tournament itself. “Being a part of an organization like this, and in this way, is a mode of fulfilling our obligations to do what’s best for this nation and Indian people everywhere.”

For more information about the tournament visit www.4loveofthegame.org

Creek wrestler makes second straight trip to State Tournament

• **Western Heights sophomore finishes fourth**

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — For Creek athlete Jason Hartfield, the Oklahoma High School Wrestling State Championships might not have seemed like a big deal. This may come as a surprise to some, thinking that a sophomore could not be unfazed by such a big tournament. And that normally might be the case except for one thing; he made it last

year as just a freshman. “Yeah he wrestled last year at the finals, plus he ran at the state cross-country meet in Tulsa,” said Jason’s father, Shawn Hartfield. “I think he’s getting used to the big events.”

The big events are something that Jason had better be used to because, odds are, in the future he will be a part of quite a few of them. As only a sophomore wrestling for Western Heights High School in Oklahoma City, he qualified for his second straight state tournament in Class 4A’s 135 pound division. In his first match he dropped a



close decision (7-9) to J.C. Housley of Grove to fall into the consolation bracket. Showing an incredible amount of guts he battled back for a major decision victory in Round 2 over Chris Schrader. In his third round match he was pitted against Brock Mason of Catoosa, in what figured to be a tough challenge. But Hartfield easily disposed of Mason (7-2) setting up a showdown in the consolation finals, where he would get a rematch with Grove’s Housley for an opportunity at third place. The third place match was a classic with both wrestlers not wanting to give one another an inch. At the end of regulation the score was not settled, so they went into an overtime period. In overtime, Hartfield was on the wrong end of a controversial take down call and came up on the losing end (2-4). Hartfield looked at the silver lining in the loss.

“The loss will really help me in the long run I think,” said Hartfield. “I use it

as motivation, because I know I could have won. That will keep me focused when I’m training.”

Training is something that Jason takes a lot of pride in. In the next few weeks he’ll begin working with former NCAA champion and University of Oklahoma All-American Michael Lightner.

“I’m really looking forward to that,” he said. He’ll have to sandwich that training in with a summer schedule that will see him wrestle in about 9 or 10 Greco Roman/Free-style Olympic wrestling tournaments. “He really does keep a pretty good schedule, I mean, we’re always planning for a tournament,” said Shawn Hartfield. “That’s why I’m so proud of him, because he’s dedicated to something enough to work hard for it.”

And the reason he works hard can be found in his cultural roots. Indian people are selfless, believing the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few. “To me, when I wrestle it’s not for me at all,” said Hartfield. “Of course I want to win, but I also think about representing my family, my teammates and my school.”

For now Hartfield will continue to train, taking with him lessons learned in the sport and for life. “Wrestling has taught me discipline, and to me that’s the most important thing.”

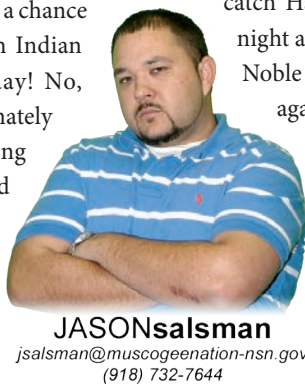
HOT CORNER

Hensci! I hope the month of March has found you, and found you well. I know I’ve been really excited about March. It could be because March brings on St. Patrick’s Day and it gives us a chance to celebrate the great Irish Indian Johnson ‘O Malley, aaaaay! No, all joking aside I’m legitimately pumped about March being here. Last month I touched on it a little bit, but now we really get to see all the great sports action unfold before our very eyes.

Later on this week, I’ll be heading to the State Tournament in Oklahoma City to cheer on all of our great Native athletes that will be competing for the Gold Ball. There are so many out there that people may not even know of. Of course the Tahlequah Sequoyah boys and girls teams will be making their annual trek to the state capitol as the number two and number one seed respectively. I kind of feel like the boys were slighted a little with the two seed, being number one in the state through the end of the season, and blowing through the playoffs. But you have to beat everybody to win the whole thing anyway, so I guess that’s a moot point.

On the girls side, I really don’t see the Lady Indians getting much of a challenge from the rest of the field. However, they could have some problems in Round 2 with the Kingfisher squad. I’ve heard they are a great squad that, when they bring their “A” game, have the ability to give the Sequoyah girls some problems. Having said all that I look for both squads, boys and girls, to hoist the Gold Ball at the end of the week in the Big House. For those wanting to make the trip, the Sequoyah boys begin their quest at 2 p.m. on Thursday at Choctaw High School against Lindsay. The girls will begin their title defense at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the State Fair Arena against Prague.

Another Native athlete to look for will be Haley KnifeChief of Claremore. The 5’9” senior guard has been a sparkplug for the Zebras this year as they finished with the #4 ranking in Class 5A. All the teams that are in their way at the state tournament should be very concerned. When the lights come on and the stakes are the highest, it brings out the best in the Claremore



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girls. They won state titles in 2003, 2004 and 2005 and in their last four appearances at the state tournament have compiled a record of 10-1. That’s impressive! You can catch Haley and her team Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. at Norman’s Lloyd Noble Center in a first round game against Noble.

If you cannot make it up to OKC this week do not be dismayed. A large portion of the talent that will be on hand at the state tournament this weekend will be in Henryetta at the end of this month for the

4th Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament. So if you can’t make it to the “Big House” settle for watching such stars as Tahlequah Sequoyah’s Lance and Mike Soap and Zac Goodrich at the Henryetta gym. Or you could catch the CoachesAid.com #1 rated girls player in the state (all classes) Angel Goodrich along with some of her Sequoyah teammates. Claremore’s KnifeChief will also be on hand and it will be interesting to see a possible match-up with her and Goodrich. For the past two years crowds got an unbelievable treat at March Madness, watching Goodrich and Oklahoma Sooner freshman sensation Jenna Plumley go head-to-head in the finals. That’s the great thing about the March Madness tournament. Not only do you get to enjoy a Native basketball display that takes a back seat to none in the entire country, but there is a chance to see all these players match up that might not get a chance to do so during the regular season. It’s going to be really fantastic.

One of the things that I admire most about seeing these Native American athletes competing at the highest level is the amount of support that they receive from their respective fan bases. I was reading a message board earlier this week and someone was saying “we’re going to have to get there early because, if we don’t, the gym will be too full. Sequoyah’s fans are awesome, there will be more than 2,000.” Folks, remember that by going out and lifting these kids up you are doing a great thing, don’t treat it as anything less. Our youth need that support, something to keep them moving forward. So be loud, be proud and be part of the crowd. See ya next time!

4 Love of the Game Magazines have arrived

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — The wait is over! 4 Love of the Game Magazine’s second issue is in and ready to spread like wildfire. Getting out the word on Native American athletes and their stories is the top priority of this publication and this issue does not disappoint.

Featured on this edition’s cover is Creek athlete and superstar runningback Vfasty Locust of Vian. Locust enjoyed a roller coaster season that was a story of disappointment, redemption and achievement all in itself. That story is detailed in this month’s issue. Along with the story, the magazine will include an 11 x 17 pullout poster of Locust.

Also featured are a visit with Oklahoma Sooner standout Jenna Plumley and a feature

on Derrick Shaw, the deep snapper for the Big 12 Champion University of Oklahoma football team.

Many people out there share the vision that this magazine has and hopes to see it come to life. It will take the support of those people to keep it going.

Copies of the magazine will be available at the Creek Nation complex at the Communications building and can be picked up for \$3. If you would like a mailed subscription to the magazine contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 732-7634 or log on the internet and visit www.4loveofthegame.org.

If your business is interested in advertising in the magazine e-mail lvmh4@yahoo.com



MARCH MADNESS
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The 4th Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament is slated for March 21-25, 2007 in Henryetta, Oklahoma. This year's tournament will feature 37 teams (22 boys and 15 girls teams) made up of High School Indian All-Stars throughout Oklahoma, as well as Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, and Nebraska.

A college prep seminar, hosted by Bacone College, will officially kick off this year's tournament on Wednesday at the Henryetta Inn & Dome. Registration will be from noon to 1 p.m. The seminar is geared toward preparing our Native American for the rigors of college life. Kyle Taylor, Bacone College Native American Recruiter, will once again coordinate the college prep seminar.


Following the college prep seminar, a coaches meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m., team pizza party will begin at 6:30 p.m., and the X-Box Challenge at 7 p.m. The events are for tournament participants only.

On Thursday and Friday, teams will compete in pool play and will be seeded in a single elimination tournament on Saturday to determine the champion and winner of the GOLD BALL! Friday night's event has a NBA All-Star Weekend feel. Following pool play, an East/West All-Star game, a three-point, slam dunk, and team ball competitions will be held from 6 p.m to 10 p.m. at the Henryetta High School gymnasium. New to this year's event is the "Dash For Cash" fan competition. During Friday nights events, ticket stubs will be drawn for chance at making a layup, free-throw, three pointer, and half court shot for a pile of cash! However, all this must be done in 30 seconds.


Following the East/West All-Star game, a dance will be held at the Henryetta Inn & Dome from 10:30 p.m. to Midnight. ADJ and snacks will be provided for the event.

Following the tournament, 4 Love of the Game will award scholarships at a formal awards banquet on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Seating is limited to 150 participants. Those attending must sign-up at the coaches/team check-in booth prior to the boys and girls championship game on Saturday night. Also, the boys' and girls' MVP, All-Tournament team, Outstanding Offensive and Defensive Players, and players selected for the 2007 Amerind All-West Native American Basketball Team will be announced.

Featured on this year's tickets will be outstanding Native American student/athletes from Oklahoma, as well as visiting states. Daily admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 10 & under. Special weekend passes will be offered for \$12. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the Communications Department for \$4 and weekend passes for \$10.



4TH ANNUAL ALL-INDIAN
MARCH MADNESS TOURNAMENT



VIAN HIGH SCHOOL
RUNNING BACK
VFASTV LOCUST
Scored State Record 57 TD's in 2005
2A State Runner-Up 2006

OKLAHOMA
HENRYETTA H.S. GYM
MARCH 22, 23 & 24, 2007
www.4loveofthegame.org

ADULT
HHS001

Creek athlete prepares for upcoming
softball season at Bacone College

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

MUSCOGEE— The softball season for the Bacone Lady Warriors is well under way. Their season was supposed to have began on February 13, but the game against Rogers State College was rescheduled due to bad weather. The team did get started on February 20 when they split a double header with Northwestern Oklahoma State.

But inclement weather hasn't stopped the hopes of the Lady Warriors as they begin their quest for a bid to the National Junior College Softball Tournament later this year. It was in 2004, that the Lady Warriors have had their most successful season ever. They finished number eleven in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) ratings.

One reason the Lady Warriors have such high hopes this season is because of freshmen Alleena Harley. Harley, an Okmulgee High School 2006 graduate, plays the infield for the Lady Warriors' softball team. But Harley won't be the only newcomer to the softball program. Head Coach Wesley Bryson will begin his first season at the helm of the Bacone Lady Warriors softball team. Bryson, who is originally from Oklahoma, has been living south of the Red River, having coached in Texas for the past 14 years.

Although Wesley and Harley are getting used to new surroundings, they both know that it takes a lot of hard work to get to the next level.



Harley was not projected to even play college ball when she was attending Okmulgee High School, but with determination and persistence, she was able to catch the attention of Coach Wesley and the rest of the Bacone Staff and received a scholarship to the college in Muskogee.

Harley's talents were also noticed by 4

Love of the Game. She was awarded a four year college tuition scholarship from the organization last year at the Third Annual All-Indian March Madness formal awards banquet. "Alleena is a true inspiration," said Victor Bear, 4 Love of the Game Board member. "Her situation was one of the primary reasons we started this organization.

TEARS
OF JOY

Alleena Harley shed tears of joy as she accepted a four-year, full-tuition scholarship to Bacone College. 4 Love of the Game has awarded close to \$150,000 in scholarships the past two years. Eleven scholarships were available to this year's high school seniors.

She is a true role model for our Native American youth."

The college experience is another step for Harley and she expects to do great things for the softball program at Bacone, while at the same time finishing her education and maybe in some way helping other Native American athletes.

Professional Native American
Boxing Organization
Created

North American Boxing Federation and the World Boxing Council creating first ever Indian fight group



by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

TULSA — The North American Boxing Federation, an organization affiliated with the World Boxing Council, is proud to announce the creation of the Native American Boxing Council. The purpose of this organization will be to promote professional boxing among the Native American fighters located in Canada, the United States and Mexico.

The NABC will regulate itself under the policies, rules and guidelines of the NABF. The NABC will rank the ten top professional Native American fighters in each of the 17 weight divisions, with the goal to establish a champion in each division.

The NABC will invite and take applications from professional Native American boxers to join the organization. In order to be eligible, fighters must

be members of a federally recognized tribe, as well as meet the established governing rules set by the NABC. All actions of the NABC concerning fights, events or any legal discrepancies, will be brought to the NABC President and Board of Governors, which will operate under the supervision of the NABF, for consideration, consultation and approval.

A web page will be established, as well as a monthly publication, which will promote the fighters and fight events throughout North America. These events will be held on tribal lands.

It is the hope of the NABC to provide Native American boxers a positive outlet to further their careers, promote tribal culture, and take pride in the recognition of their championships.

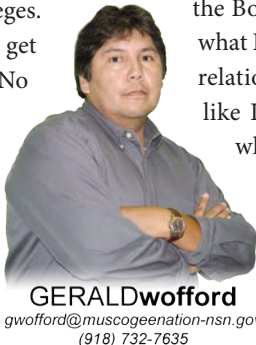
SHOP TALK with GERALD

Well, I hope everyone is doing fine out there in Indian land. A lot of things going on this month and I guess you could say its 'sports heaven' to a lot of people. All because of the basketball tournaments going on all over the country, High School, Jr. College, and Division I colleges. Everyone is having a playoff to get to a basketball championship. No family is unaffected by this fever, chances are you have a relative or friend who is playing in some tournament or they know of someone. No wonder its called 'March Madness', and the has beens aren't left out either, their's a whole bunch of independent tournaments going on somewhere — base kt ball — we salute you!

You know one cool thing about the game is being able to enjoy it as a fan and sometimes getting a chance to know players and coaches, even if its through the television. Let me explain, any diehard fan becomes loyal to their team and soon begins to know each individual through their statistics, and their overall game play. You soon start to find that you have favorite players that you like to watch play. You like the way they approach the game, the way they relate to their teammates and their hustle and unselfishness toward the game.

One such player that meant a lot to me was Dennis Johnson, a great standout player who played division I ball at Pepperdine University. Later he would be drafted and play in the NBA, making stops at Seattle, Phoenix and Boston. He would get three Championship rings while playing in the pros. Not a bad resume for someone who did not even start his senior year in high school and was only given a chance to play at the next level when a coach from Harbor junior college in California noticed his defensive tenacity in a pick up game at a local school yard.

Johnson was constantly trying to make himself better and it was this philosophy that made him a star at Harbor and



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helped him go on to Pepperdine University in Malibu. Where he helped the school make the NCAA tournament. After spending one year there, he bolted for the NBA.

Johnson was a favorite player of mine because he played for my favorite team—the Boston Celtics. This goes back to what I was saying earlier about a fans relationship to his team. It seemed like I was the only person around who was a Celtic fan. Everyone, my family, friends, even the local dogs were all Los Angeles Laker fans who are rivals of the Celtics. So this made me cheer even more for Boston, I wasn't going to be generic

like everyone else. That was now my team, win or lose. Dennis Johnson added to the Celtic mystique and helped me feel like a Champion when he helped the Celtics beat the Lakers and the Houston Rockets to be World Champions.

So their was no hesitation last November when Tulsa 66ers President Joe Berry came on the Creek Nation radio program to promote 'Native American Heritage' night and said that the Austin Toros would be coming to town later in the month. Berry mentioned that the Toros were being coached by Dennis Johnson, now a retired NBA legend and helping the Celtic franchise by coaching one of its club teams. Berry extended an invitation to meet Johnson if I wanted. I was there early and I knew realistically that I might just get a chance to shake his hand and say hi quickly.

As I entered the arena through the media entrance, I was escorted by a media rep of the 66ers to where Coach Johnson was. He said "hi" and we talked for quite a while, we talked about what it was like to play with Larry Bird, to win Championships and to be the best you can be. The conversation was what only a fan could hope for. Even when I had to leave at halftime, he waved good-bye.

It was two weeks ago that I heard he died of a heart attack. Its not much fun when you say good-bye to your heroes.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Do Native American boarding schools have an unfair athletic advantage?

GERALD WOFFORD

Well, certainly when one team is winning, everyone will take notice. There will be a lot of finger-pointing, a lot of accusations, and a lot of critical comments made about a successful program. It's human nature to look for the achilles heel on anyone, and if any school is losing to another and tries to figure how they might be winning. They might begin to say anything about it.

Its going to be difficult to argue a counter on this point from a Native American perspective. Its nothing new for high schools to recruit from other districts as well as other parts of the state.

So when a complaint may be made against Indian schools doing unfair recruiting, well, perhaps they are just getting with the times.

JASON SALSMAN

This is a really tough question to answer. I can look at it from the people's perspective that say that school's like Tahlequah Sequoyah might have an edge because they can pull in players just because of their Native American heritage, so they basically can pick and choose the best. But I'm not buying into that. Nobody had a complaint until these Indian kids started taking people to the woodshed.

To me, Sequoyah is called the "school of choice" because the students want to go there. These boarding schools have done an increasingly better job of making their institutions a place where these kids can be proud of who they are. And who's to say they are superior athletes when they get there? Maybe the environment that has been created pushes them to want to be the best.



INSIDE this ISSUE
SECTION A - TRIBAL
Inside Section A of The Muscogee Nation News: Executive, A2 - Message from the Principal Chief; Legislative, A3 - Message from the Speaker; Legislative, A4 - Council authorizes special appropriations; Business/Gaming, A5 - MNBE recognizes workers at USAMITC; Health, A6 - Preparations for the 2007 "Pink Party"; Housing, A7 - Notice from Housing; Education, A8 - Dr. Coser Named New President of Muscogee Nation College.



SECTION B - FEATURES
Inside Section B of The Muscogee Nation News: Cultural, B1 - Creek Council House Indian Art Festival continues to educate public; Elderly, B2 - A report on a Veterans trip to Phoenix, Az; Religion, B3 - Thlophlocco United Methodist Church receives transportation; Lifestyles, B4 - Bearden Bears win the Oklahoma Rural Elementary Schools state championship; Spotlight, B5 - Yuchi Student finishes at Dartmouth; Language, B6 - Mvskoke Language Program March 28, Cokv Tvlvme Okhonayetv; Obituaries, B7; and Advertising, B8



SECTION C - THE SCENE
Inside Section C of The Muscogee Nation News: Creek Nation Festival, C1 - Festival Highlights; Creek Nation Festival, C2 - Festival Map; Sports, C3 - Haley shines in her first season at NEO; and Sports, C4 - Native American Amateur Boxing Tournament coming to Oklahoma



NATIVE NEWS TODAY
Native News Today, hosted by Gerald Wofford and Jason Salsman, was being broadcast weekly on Saturday mornings beginning at 11 a.m. on Cox Cable Channel 3. Because of decreased availability with Cox Cable being bought out in certain areas by Sudden Link, Native News Today is now being broadcast on CW Network Channel 19 on broadcast television programming at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday afternoons.
For more information, or to submit story ideas contact us at (918) 732-7635.

CLASS REUNION
Sequoyah High School will be hosting a 40 year reunion for the Class of 1967, at the Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah, on Saturday May 5.
For more information contact Betty Jack Pulver at (918) 227-1508, Leroy Adair at (918) 348-4858, or Joyce Hardridge Jennings at (918) 759-4633.

Executive Office participates in Reading is Fundamental campaign

THE JOY OF READING

Reading is Fundamental is the Nation's oldest and largest non-profit children's literacy organization. Its purpose is to help children discover the joys and acquire the habit of reading. Twice a year a special reading campaign is held with special guest readers volunteering to read to the students. Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill visited the Okmulgee Head Start Center and conducted a special reading for the children. "I am very pleased with the special reading activities," said Tammy Lewis, Reading is Fundamental Coordinator and Okmulgee Head Start Family Service Worker. "Reading is the key to success in education."



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis reads to a group of very attentive head start children at the Okmulgee Head Start Center. The children also received two free books as part of the tribe's Reading is Fundamental Campaign.

STARLA BUSH/MNN

Tribe to provide medical alert system for tribal citizens

- MNBE Technology Services to install and implement system

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — A new law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System for the purchase of personal emergency alarm systems for tribal citizens in need of immediate medical assistance has been approved by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

The Act was authored by Okmulgee District Representative Keeper Johnson to appropriate funds to provide 250 tribal citizens, that meet the qualifications of being elderly, handicapped or incapacitated, with immediate medical assistance. To qualify, individuals must be a Muscogee (Creek) citizen living within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and must be receiving services from the IHS and/or Veterans' medical facilities. Once approved, patients can obtain the emergency alarm system from the Mus-

cogee (Creek) Nation CHR Program.

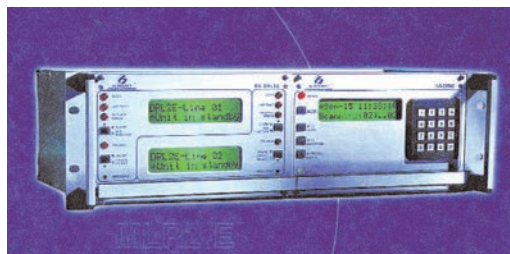
Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise (MNBE) Technology Services recently concluded extensive research and has redesigned the system to include not only a medical alert system, but a fire alarm system in the same reporting system as well. A vital part of MNBE's new design was to implement a new receiving station within in the Tribal Lighthorse Department allowing them to monitor the system 24/7 and notify the appropriate responders. This new system, handled internally, will provide a more efficient and timely response system.

"We as a tribe should have been doing this a long time ago," said BJ Waggoner, MNBE Technology Services Manager. "We need to utilize our own tribal resources, such as Lighthorse and MNBE, to implement and maintain our own medical alert

system. There is no need to pay an outside agency to do that for our tribal citizens. We need to take care of our people."

The system consists of a receiving station at the citizen's place of residence, a pendant worn around the neck or a bracelet, and a smoke detector. When a medical alert button is pushed, a two-way communication between the tribal citizen and a Lighthorse monitoring attendant will be established in order to summon medical assistance. The smoke detector will also be tied into the system.

"The best thing about this system is that it provides more services and the cost fits into the funds appropriated," said Waggoner.



Pictured above is the personal emergency reporting system and the central station receiver. A typical medical alert system would cost an individual anywhere from \$15 to \$29 a month. Because of the special appropriation and MNBE's new design, citizens will have access to the medical alert system at no cost.

Annual Spring Celebration well attended

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On March 23, over 700 participants attended the Muscogee Nation Community Partnership Board's Annual Spring Celebration held at the Tribal Capitol Complex.

"This year the Spring Celebration had a great turnout and the Community Partnership Board can't wait to see what next years turn out will be," said Janice Hanun, Chairperson of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Partnership Board.

Beginning in March of 2003, the Muscogee Nation Community Partnership Board has held a free family fun day/ resource fair for Native American children and youth throughout the area. The event is scheduled for the Friday of spring break of area public schools so families can bring their kids to the event.

The Annual Spring Celebration has been funded by Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and donations.



Partnership board seeking runners for event in North Carolina

by Marcus Proctor
Community Partnership Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Community Partnership Board is hosting an agility race on May 10, 2007 at 8 a.m. before the Cultural Day events at the Tribal Capitol Complex. The event is limited to runners who are members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who are in good physical condition and interested in representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at the Gathering of Southeastern Tribes.

The Gathering of Southeastern Tribes is scheduled for June 8-9, 2007 in Cherokee, NC. The Five Tribes gathering will host

cultural demonstrations, blowgun contest, archery contest, and a six mile run through the Smokey Mountain National Park.

For more information on the agility race, contact Janice Hanun at (918) 759-2334 or Marcus Proctor (918) 756-6231. For more information on the demonstrations, archery or blowgun contest, please contact the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324.



From the Office of the Principal Chief

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted on April 2, 2007

As I sit here at home this Sunday, I face so many problems and issues that will have to be addressed.

First, I will explain the Bristow Casino “take over” by Order of Proclamation. Two audits were done and both produced many infractions and violations. A third audit was supposed to be sent to the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) in Washington by January 31st. This was not done and we received a warning letter from NIGC facing possible fines. This could affect all gaming facilities. The audit has still not been sent in but we are working on it. A tribal resolution was sent to the National Council and I called on extraordinary session to permit our Gaming Board to start operating Bristow Casino along with Tulsa, Muskogee, etc. The National Council refused to pass this so the Proclamation I issued still stands. The Principal Chief and Community Services will operate the casino; we have hired a professional manager to



Chief Ellis

assume operations. This casino was only operated 8 hours a day in the past but we will probably double the hours and hire more Bristow Community members to operate the extended hours. All communities get 50% of the net profit so we expect Bristow Community to share in much larger profits. We have 8 casinos in operation but only Bristow and Checotah are operated by the community themselves.

I knew this would be or develop into a political situation but I have decisions to make regardless of what individuals and citizens think or say. I have noticed that several people have already announced that they are candidates for Principal Chief. I hope and encourage anyone who is not satisfied with your government to file for an office in this Nation. I have occupied all three positions and it's not an easy job to get elected to any office especially Chief, but give it a try, you may be successful.

Festival time is just around the corner and I hope that many of our absentee citizens will make plans to attend this year. Take time to drive around our Capitol Complex

and see what a pretty and modern capitol we now have. Stop by my office and visit anytime. Remember to nominate someone you know for the Living Legend award this year. This nomination has to be someone who has been a real asset to our nation through the years.

Our Creek Nation Supreme Court has still not made a decision on my case with the National Council or the Constitution Commission. It's been over 3 months – what's the deal? Our Nation and its budgets for FY07 and FY08 need to be addressed and we need a speedy and prompt decision by our courts that the constitution implies. I am working on legislation to permit employees an easier way to run for elected office than the previous laws. I hope this will be passed by the National Council when available.

I hope you all have a great spring and summer from my family to yours. Just a last note about my Supreme Court Case, the National Council has reduced my attorney budget to only 20% of normal. Do I just give up my case because I have no money? Tribal law says the Office of the Principal Chief has to be funded. I have no money to continue this extension of time and this was part of my case to be funded the same as the National Council, this is all I ask. The 3 Branches of Government is supposed to be equal.



Muscogee Nation News November 2006

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individual writer and not those of **The Muskogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muskogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muskogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muskogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7637 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
E.Y., A.Y, M.M & C.M.
Alleged Deprived Children

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Charles Henry
1117 3rd NE
220 NE 13th Street
Ardmore, OK 73401

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4 day of June, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. for an adjudication hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you. IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 2nd day of March, 2007.

Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
E.Y., A.Y, M.M & C.M.
Alleged Deprived Children

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Timothy Lufkins

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4 day of June, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. for an adjudication hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you. IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 2nd day of March, 2007.

Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
E.Y., A.Y, M.M & C.M.
Alleged Deprived Children

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: George Muniz

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDEREDTT TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4 day of June, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. for an adjudication hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you. IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 2nd day of March, 2007.

Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
L.B.
Alleged Deprived Children

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: William Robert Brown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4 day of June, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. for an adjudication hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you. IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 28th day of March, 2007.

Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

From the desk of the Speaker
HE(N)SCI !!!
The March monthly session of the National Council consisted of a very lengthy agenda and result of actions of the National Council will be highlighted in the Legislative section of this paper. My column this month will be apprising you of national issues that are of great concern of this office.

Each year Tribal governments throughout the country turn their attention to proposed program budgets being considered by Congress and in particular the effect on programs at the tribal level. Each year it seems the current administration is decreasing or eliminating funding for much needed tribal programs and services. This year is no different.

Recently, the National Indian Head Start Directors Association reported appropriations to provide Head Start with a meaningful increase was barely approved in the House by a 216 to 210 vote. Head Start programs have a positive history in preparing our children for education. For the House to have such a close vote is beyond comprehension.

During the recent Oklahoma Johnson-O'Malley conference in Tulsa, the major topic of discussion was the proposed cut of the JOM program in the amount of \$4,371,000. JOM continues to be one of the most successful Indian education programs in the country. In this particular case it's not Congress but the Department of Interior who is cutting the funding from the FY 2007 Indian Affairs Operating Plan. Congress to their credit has been working with the National JOM Board to have the funding restored. Even after Congress requested the JOM program be fully funded, Interior has opted to disregard the recommendation of Congress. Carl Artman, just recently appointed Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs seems to be heading up the efforts to not fund the program at the level of FY 06 which was \$16.4 million.

A letter from the National JOM Association states a great sense of urgency in asking for assistance in this matter. Many of us can remember the impact this program had in our lives and the assistance it provided for our parents. Let's help in this endeavor by calling our Congressional delegation and asking for their support in restoring the needed funding for the JOM program for the FY 2007 Indian Affairs Operating Plan. The following are phone numbers for our Congressional delegation:

Senator Jim Inhofe – (202) 224-4721; Senator Tom Coburn – (202) 224-5754; Rep. John Sullivan – (202) 225-2211; Rep. Dan Boren – (202) 225-2701; Rep. Frank Lucas – (202) 225-5565; Rep. Tom Cole – (202) 225-6165 and Rep. Mary Fallin – (202) 225-2132.

In November the National Council passed TR 06-152, a Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to hire local Counsel to file Trust Claims against the Federal Government. The purpose is to file a claim in Federal Court of Claims against the United States Government on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for all unpaid royalty revenues. Elouise Cobell filed a class action lawsuit in 1996 to seek a historical account of royalty accounts by the Interior Department for more than a century. The department and the Bureau of Indian Affairs were charged with collecting money from Individual land leases and mineral royalty payments earned by landowners. It's estimated billions of dollars were never deposited or altogether disappeared. In March, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne proposed to end the case by providing 7 billion over a 10 year period to aid in the reconsolidation of Native land bases. The proposal would also relieve the government of all historical accounting obligations and prevent tribes or individuals from suing in the future. This latest offer is referred to as an "insult" by Cobell and Tribal leaders.

Ironic this country without hesitation, is appropriating and spending billions of dollars for a war in a foreign land. The billions being sent to the foreign country could be used in Indian country for much needed programs and settling law suits filed by the original landowners of this country. Don't be fooled, Indian wars are still being fought in this country, methods have changed. My prayer is that when and if the war ends in Iraq, the people of Iraq will not sign any documents that include, "as long as the grass grows and the river flows."

Once again thank you for your words of encouragement and until next time MVTO!



Tiger

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE JANUARY 25, EMERGENCY SESSION.

JAN. 25, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **TOMPICKERING; ROBERT JONES; BO JOHNSON; LARRY BIBLE**, EXCUSED; **CHERRAH QUIETT**, EXCUSED AND **PAULA WILLITS**, EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-0-0) nca 07-039, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-031 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY) SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**;

JAN. 27, QUARTERLY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DUKE HARJO, TOM PICKERING, KEEPER JOHNSON, BO JOHNSON, CHERRAH QUIETT**, AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

REPRESENTATIVES **DUKE HARJO, JOHNNIE GREENE, KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT** ARRIVED AFTER ROLL CALL.

COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** ARRIVED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION.

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS PRESENTED BY PRINCIPAL CHIEF **A.D. ELLIS**.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-001, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MOVE OF THE REINTEGRATION PROGRAM FROM THE HEALTH SYSTEM TO THE TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**;
- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-002, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MSUCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A CREEK TRIBAL CITIZEN RANKING PREFERENCE FOR REHABILITATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES ADMINISTERED BY THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRANE**;
- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) TR 07-003, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE FIVE (5) WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. BUSINESS EDITION CUSTOMER AGREEMENTS FOR INTERNET SERVICE TO THE DWAR, HANNA, OKMULGEE, TWIN HILLS AND YARDEKA CHARTERED INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTERS. SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;
- APPROVED (23-0-1) TR 07-004, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **MARIAM R. BEAVER** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS. SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER; S. CALDWELL; P. WILLITS**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-005, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN AND THE TOWN OF DUSTIN, OKLAHOMA FOR THE TOWN OF DUSTIN COMMUNITY WATER TREATMENT IRON AND MANGANESE REMOVAL PLANT PROJECT. SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;
- APPROVED (15-8-1) TR 07-006, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **SUSAN M. ARKEKETA** TO SERVE ON THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD. SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**.

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL**.

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-007, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE NATION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE OKLAHOMA INTERTRIBAL HOMELAND SECURITY COALITION AND AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE OKLAHOMA INTERTRIBAL HOMELAND SECURITY COALITION CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS. SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;
- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-008, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH HOLDENVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR THE LEASING OF SPACE ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO BENEFIT THE HOLDENVILLE CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY. SPONSOR: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; S. ADE**;
- APPROVED (22-0-2) TR 07-009, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **LEAH HARJO WARE** FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO SERVE AS A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) TR 07-010, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA. SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BARNETT; J. JENNINGS; B. JOHNSON**;
- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-014, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO BE PLACED ON THE HEADSTONE OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN. SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-004, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL EMERGENCY ALARM SYSTEMS FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE. SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **J. JENNINGS; B. JOHNSON**;
- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) NCA 07-005, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE 12-PASSENGER VANS FOR CONCHARITY METHODIST CHURCH, INDIAN FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF OAKHURST AND WORD LIFE CENTER AND FOR TWO 15-PASSENGER VANS FOR ARBEKA BAPTIST CHURCH AND ARBEKA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **B. JOHNSON, J. JENNINGS; S. ALEXANDER** (\$141,890.66);
- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) NCA 07-010, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF VANS FOR CHURCHES IN THE TUKVPTCE DISTRICT. SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; S. CALDWELL** (\$108,400.00)

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) NCA 07-021, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 15-PASSENGER VAN FOR OKMULGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY. SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **B. JOHNSON; J. JENNINGS; R. JONES; J. FIFE** (\$28,529.83);

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) NCA 07-027, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 12 PASSENGER VANS FOR HIGH SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH (OKEMAH) AND THLOPTHLOCCO METHODIST CHURCH. SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. SCOTT; B. FIFE** (\$33,578.00);

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) NCA 07-028, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SALEM/RYAL ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM TO CONTINUE FUNDING FOR THE COOK POSITION. SPONSOR: **TOMPICKERING**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **A. NOTARO; T. McINTOSH** (\$9,000.00);

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) NCA 07-032, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FUND THE REMAINDER OF THE COST OF A HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE VAN FOR TWIN HILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY. SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$12,886.00)

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) NCA 07-034, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO VARIOUS CREEK CHURCHES FOR THE PURCHASE OF SIX (6) 12-PASSENGER VANS AND FOUR (4) 15-PASSENGER VANS. SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$186,734.00)

ABSTAIN WERE: **RON CLEGHORN**;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-006, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SALEM/RYAL ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM TO CONTINUE FUNDING FOR THE COOK POSITION. SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **A. NOTARO; T. McINTOSH** (\$9,000.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-007, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF AT&T FOUNDATION GRANT FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE. SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$23,438.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-008, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, §3-201 TO ADD A DEFINITION FOR "MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT" REGARDING RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS. SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**;
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-009, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING

FOR THE WETUMKA INDIAN COMMUNITY AND ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM. SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; S. CALDWELL** (\$1,113,300.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA WILLITS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (21-2-0) NCA 07-011, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN AND CANDIDATE FOR UNITED STATES CONGRESS. SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE** (\$1,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES** AND **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

- APPROVED (17-7-0) NCA 07-012, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM AND COMPULSIVE GAMBLING, INC. MEMBERSHIP FEES. SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$10,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, PAULA WILLITS** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-013, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SAPULPA INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR CONTINUANCE OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES DUE TO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES. SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO** (\$4,000.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-014, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN'S HOME TO CONTINUE PROVIDING SERVICES TO CITIZENS AND PREVENT THE FACILITY FROM CLOSING. SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER; E. LaGRONE; R. CLEGHORN; L. WIND; K. JOHNSON; R. JONES** (\$100,000.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-015, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 18, CHAPTER 2 TO ADD A SUBCHAPTER 5, ENTITLED "COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM" AND APPROPRIATING STARTUP FUNDS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. (\$230,000.00);
- POSTPONED, NCA 07-016, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO HELP SPONSOR THE 2007 "REACH THE REZ" PROJECT. SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**; CO-SPONSOR: **C. QUIETT** (\$100,000.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-018, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF THE ACCUMULATED FUNDS IN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE RESTRICTED ACCOUNT (108568 CODIFICATION) TO THE DISTRICT COURT CLERK CODE OF LAWS REVOLVING FUND AND AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 30, §1-115 AND §1-116 TO ALLOW THE REVENUE FROM THE SALE OF THE CODE, SUPPLEMENTS, AND POCKET PARTS TO BE PLACED IN THE DISTRICT COURT CLERKS CODE OF LAWS REVOLVING FUND. SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**;

REPRESENTATIVES **ROBERT JONES** AND **THOMAS YAHOLA** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-019, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE NATIONAL INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ASSOCIATION TO HELP SPONSOR THE 25TH ANNUAL "PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN" NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT. SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** (\$14,000.00);

REPRESENTATIVES **ROBERT JONES** AND **THOMAS YAHOLA** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-020, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL INDIAN CHILD WLFARE ASSOCIATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES. SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**; CO-SPONSOR: **T. YAHOLA** (\$1,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES **ROBERT JONES** AND **THOMAS YAHOLA** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-023, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST AN ELDER CREEK CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EXPENSES. SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** (\$704.00);
- POSTPONED (13-11-0) NCA 07-025, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATION FUNDS TO THE OKMULGEE AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER** (\$25,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT; TOM PICKERING; ANTHONY NOTARO, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LaGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, SHIRLENE ADE, LARRY BIBLE**, AND **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-026, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST AN ENROLLED CREEK CITIZEN WHO IS A QUADRIPLEGIC WITH PARTIAL ONE-TIME FUNDING TO ASSIST IN PURCHASING A VEHICLE THAT WILL

BE MODIFIED TO ALLOW HIM TO HAVE ADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION FOR HIS SPECIAL NEEDS. SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **E. LaGRONE; J. FIFE; S. ALEXANDER** (\$15,000.00);

- APPROVED (22-2-0) NCA 07-029, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST THE NATIONAL INDIAN MONUMENT & INSTITUTE, INC. WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM, SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **L. BIBLE; P. WILLITS; E. LaGRONE; R. CLEGHORN; G. TIGER** (\$150,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES** AND **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-033, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO TALLAHASSEE INDIAN METHODIST CHURCH FOR ITS 100TH YEAR CELEBRATION. SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$3,000.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-035, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA. SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**, CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BARNETT; J. JENNINGS; B. JOHNSON** (\$345,000.00);
- APPROVED (15-9-0) NCA 07-025, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE OKMULGEE AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION. SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER** (\$25,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, THOMAS McINTOSH; BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, THOMAS YAHOLA, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

JAN. 30, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **TOM PICKERING, KEEPER JOHNSON**- EXCUSED, **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**-EXCUSED, **THOMAS YAHOLA**-EXCUSED, AND **PAULA WILLITS**-EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION ON TULSA CASINO PROJECT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

JAN. 30, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON, SYLVANNA CALDWELL** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) TR 07-013, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TOBACCO COMPACT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA. SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**.

FEB. 20, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **BILL FIFE**-EXCUSED, **BO JOHNSON, LARRY BIBLE**-EXCUSED AND **RON CLEGHORN**-EXCUSED;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

REPRESENTATIVE **BO JOHNSON** ARRIVED

- APPROVED WITH CHANGES (22-0-0) TR 07-021, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OPPOSING OKLAHOMA HOUSE BILL 1423, OKLAHOMA SENATE BILL 38 AND ANY OTHER LEGISLATION OFFICIALIZING ENGLISH AS THE LANGUAGE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA. SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-024, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF TERMINATING TWO LEASE AGREEMENTS ON RESTRICTED PROPERTY LOCATED IN HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA. SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-025, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO NEGOTIATE FOR AND PURCHASE RESTRICTED PROPERTY IN HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA FOR USE BY THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY. SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; S. CALDWELL**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS EXCUSED;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) NCA 07-061, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE TERMINATION OF TWO LEASES ON RESTRICTED TRIBAL PROPERTY IN HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA. SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** (\$5,000.00);
- APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 07-062, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-053 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESTRICTED PROPERTY IN HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA FOR USE BY THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY AND APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESTRICTED PROPERTY IN HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA FOR USE BY THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY. SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; S. CALDWELL**.

FEB. 24, REGULAR SESSION

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (25-0-0) NCR 07-001, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE

District Court

Continued from A2

THE OCMULGEE FIELDS TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTY, SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR (12-13-0) TR 07-012, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ESTHER HOLLOWAY TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS. SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ROGER BARNETT; TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BO JOHNSON, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE, LARRY BIBLE, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER AND PAULA WILLITS**;

• POSTPONED (25-0-0) TR 07-015, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE PROJECT BUDGET FOR THE NEW CREEK NATION TULSA CASINO. SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• APPROVED (25-0-0) TR 07-016, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMITS WITH AMERICAN PROMOTIONAL EVENTS, INC. FOR THE OPERATION OF ONE TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO BENEFIT THE TULSA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY. SPONSOR: **LARRY BIBLE**;

• APPROVED (25-0-0) TR 07-017, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMIT WITH OKMULGEE COUNTY 4-H FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND. SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**;

• APPROVED (25-0-0) TR 07-019, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO REQUEST FROM THE BIA THAT CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF MUSKOGEE, MUSKOGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA BE DECLARED AS SURPLUS. TO EFFECT THE TRANSFER OF

Council authorizes special appropriations:

By: Rita Williams

During the Regular Session held March 131, 2007 the Muscogee (Creek) National Council authorized \$3,186,349.60 in special appropriations.

Churches - Special appropriations went to churches for construction of two fellowship halls, Arbeka and Alabama Baptist Churches. Maintenance and repairs to Many Springs Baptist church facilities, and to assist with their annual singing event. The construction of a worship building for New Beginnings Baptist Church. Appropriations were also given for various church vans. Monies were given to Hutche Chuppa Indian Baptist Church to assist with expenses to give presentations of Muscogee Hymns at Yale University.

Communities - Appropriations were given to Okfuskee Indian Community to provide maintenance for their recent land ac-

QUISITION AND FOR THE RENOVATIONS OF THE BRISTOW INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO. Ceremonial Grounds - Appropriations were given to Arbeka Ceremonial ground for a new building. Release of funds and amendment to the Green Corn Ceremonial Assistance. Special Appropriations for 16 ceremonial grounds for the purchase of tools, equipment and miscellaneous expenses related to the safety and health environmental maintenance .

Organizations - Special appropriations for the 1st Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens diabetes awareness summit. Appropriations to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System 5th Annual Pink Party, Breast Cancer Awareness. Sponsor for the American Indian Student Association Cultural Affairs Committee. An appropriation to the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame. To partially assist Tobacco Retailers Alliance to hire consultants and lobby at the state level regarding tribally-related tobacco issues. An appropriation to

assist the Indian Health Service to offset the costs associated with providing water and sewer facilities to 80 homes located within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Schools - A special appropriation to Porter Schools with purchasing playground equipment.

Language programs- Appropriations to assist the OU Language program for the 2007 Creek singing event. Appropriations to assist the 5th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair. Assist the Euchee language preservation project with funding a daily immersion program.

Creek Citizens - An appropriation to assist Courtney Cheyanne McCollum to attend the pre-teen America Scholarship and Recognition Program. A special appropriation to support the Muscogee (Creek) Nation ambassador, Lora Harjo.

Executive Branch - A special appropriation to the Executive Branch Fiscal Year 2007 budget to provide for legal counsel.

TR 07 - 034 - FAILED - A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation relinquishing tribal (GOAB) control of the Duck Creek Casino to the Duck Creek Indian Community.

TR 07 - 018 - FAILED - A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to negotiate a contract with the Golden Touch group to develop and manage five Muscogee (Creek) Nation funeral homes on Muscogee (Creek) Nation land, one to be built per year for five years, and to purchase a nation membership group life insurance plan which will provide full service funerals for members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

NCA 07 - 094 - FAILED - A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 21, Sec: 2-102 "Appointment of term of office" to clarify the public gaming commissioner law.

NCA 07 - 083 - FAILED - A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

BIBLE; CHERRAH QUIETT; SAM ALEXANDER AND PAULA WILLITS;

• APPROVED (25-0-0) NCA 07-036, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICES BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS** (\$315,000.00);

• APPROVED (25-0-0) NCA 07-037, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY HARDSHIP PROGRAM. SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS** (\$200,000.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (25-0-0) NCA 07-038, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS** (\$200,000.00);

• APPROVED (25-0-0) NCA 07-041, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE REVISION OF THE 2002 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 02-098. SPONSOR: **LARRY BIBLE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **E. LaGRONE; R. JONES**;

• APPROVED (25-0-0) NCA 07-042, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHROIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF THE HOUSING DIVISION. SPONSOR: **LARRY BIBLE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **E. LaGRONE; R. JONES**;

• APPROVED (25-0-0) NCA 07-043, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2003 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 03-123, AMENDED BY NCA 04-150, NCA 05-281 AND NCA 06-089. SPONSOR: **LARRY BIBLE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **E. LaGRONE; R. JONES**;

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS EXCUSED;

• APPROVED (23-0-1) NCA 07-045, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF SERVICES IN THE TULSA AREA, SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA AND CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS. SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **E. LaGRONE; J. GREENE** (\$75,000.00);

ABSTAIN WERE: **ROBERT JONES**;

• APPROVED (14-10-0) NCA 07-046, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT INDN'S LIST IN ADVOCATING FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE MSUCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND FOR NATIVE AMERICANS AS A WHOLE SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT** (\$25,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO; EDDIE LaGRONE; TRAVIS SCOTT; BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; JAMES JENNINGS AND RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

• RETURN TO COMMITTEE (23-1-0) NCA 07-047, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 16, §1-102, AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, CHAPTER 8 TO STRIKE §8-101 THROUGH §8-110 AND AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 18 TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 5 ENTITLED "REINTEGRATION CODE" IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH TR 07-001 AND TO CREATE A NEW SUBDIVISION ENTITLED "PROBATION AND PAROLE PROGRAM" WITHIN THE REINTEGRATION DEPARTMENT. SPONSOR: **KEEPEER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON**;

VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPEER JOHN-**

SON;

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-048, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 17TH ANNUAL TRAIL OF HOPE NATIVE AMERICAN AA SOBRIETY CONFERENCE ON MARCH 23-25, 2007 IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA. SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$1,500.00);

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-049, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO STIDHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL TO CONSTRUCT A WALKING TRAIL. SPONSOR: **THOMAS McINTOSH** (\$10,000.00)

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-050, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO BIG ARBOR INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 15-PASSENGER VAN. SPONSOR: **THOMAS McINTOSH** (\$29,272.00);

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-051, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE-SEMINOLE-WICHITA

INDIAN BAPTSIT ASSOCIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN. SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. SCOTT; L.WIND; S. CALDWELL; T. YAHOLA; E. LaGRONE; R. JONES** (\$23,796.00);

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-052, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING TRAINING COLLEGE WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM. SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$42,052.00);

• POSTPONED, NCA 07-053, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE IN THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD BUDGET FOR 2007. SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$249,887.00);

• APPROVED (20-4-0) NCA 07-054, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO CHECOTAH HIGH SCHOOL LADYCATS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR THE BEDOUIN SHRINE TRANSPORTATION FUND. SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **A. NOTARO; E. LaGRONE** (\$6,301.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, AND SHIRLENE ADE**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) NCA 07-055, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY PHASE I FARM PROJECT. SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$117,380.00);

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-056, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE VAN. SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$40,150.00);

• APPROVED (24-0-0) A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-031 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY) AS AMENDED BY NCA 07-039. SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**.

Title 21, Section 4-102 (F), "Stipends/Mileage" to adjust stipend rates.

VETO MESSAGE BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF: NCA 07 - 046

To Override the Veto - FAILS

A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

authorizing a special appropriation to support INDN'S List in advocating for the best interests of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and for Native Americans as a whole.

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS INTRODUCED FROM THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF'S OFFICE:

A special appropriation authorizing a supplemental to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training Summer Work Program.

A special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Human Development - Mvskoke language program for a "Summer language Immersion Camp".

2007 Funding in Jeopardy!

The NJOMA Board of Director's have received the Bureau Operating Plan for '07, which shows that although Congress has restored JOM Programs nationwide, the Bureau of Education has not.

JOM Programs were allocated 12 million dollars instead the \$16.371 million! Once the money was allocated from Congress by the 4th Continuing Resolution, it was the Bureau's job to divide up the funds and devise an Opporational plan.

We are asking all JOM Programs to use the following talking points and call their members of Congress, and also Carl Artman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Also, please have your Tribal Leaders do the same. This is an extreme emergency, and we need your immediate action!

Johnson O'Malley Act Talking Points

What is JOM?

JOM is a long standing Bureau of Indian Affairs program that provides unique funding, targeted specially for tribal students ages 3 to grade 12, who attend public schools. JOM provides students with academic enhancing services and items including culturally based tutoring, school supplies, summer school, scholastic testing fees, financial aid counseling, athletic equipment and activities, caps and gowns, accelerated college preparation classes, writing competitions, etc.

* This supplemental educational program enables tribal students to attain academic success.

* The JOM program is the only federally funding program that allows for student, parent and community planning. The academic and cultural needs of the student are met because the entire community is involved with the education planning process. JOM works!

* The JOM Act, enacted in 1934, helps

meet the Federal government's trust obligation to Indian Tribes by providing supplemental funds that are used to address the unique educational and cultural needs of Native children attending State public schools.

JOM is in trouble!

In 2006, the program received 16 million. The language of the last spending bill should have continued funding in Fiscal year 07 at the 2006 levels. However, the BIA's operating plan cuts JOM by more than 4 million dollars. This is a devastating cut to the JOM programs nationwide.

Call for Action.

* Congress has requested that the Interior fully fund the JOM Program in their operating plan for FY 2007. The Interiors Operational Plan failed to act on the recommendation from Congress.

* We respectfully request that you contact the Assistant Secretary of Interior Affairs Carl Artman, advising him that JOM is a critical program in Indian Country. Please request that the Bureau of Indian Affairs fund JOM at 16 million during fiscal year 2007.

When writing your letters please address them to:

The Honorable Carl Artman
Assistant Secretary of Interior Affairs
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240 202-208-3100
Also write or e-mail your Congressional delegation

Please include personal stories and successes from your JOM program, how the lost of fund would affect your program, your school district and your students. Use statistic or graphs to show your concerns.

2007 Johnson O'Malley Conference

TULSA -- The 2007 Oklahoma Johnson O'Malley Conference was held at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills Hotel on March 25-28, 2007.

Virginia Thomas, National JOM Board

Chairperson introduced Speaker George Tiger of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as he addressed the National JOM Association Forum in the afternoon session.

The NJOMA Board addressed the



photo by Rita Williams
left to right - National Johnson O'Malley Board of Directors, Harold Dustybull, Browning Mt., Clyde Vicenti, N.M, Virginia Thomas, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Speaker George Tiger, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

TulsaPromotions



Tulsa • 81st & Riverside
www.creeknationcasino.com

CASINO PROMOTIONS:

SHOWERS OF CASH: PICK YOUR PAYDAY

We realize that days and times of promotions don't always fit your hectic schedule, so we want you to pick your payday by entering our "Showers of Cash" promotion. Starting April 15, swipe your Players Club card daily and choose from four different daily drawing times. Plus earn extra entries by playing Blackjack and Poker or winning a jackpot of 120 credits or more on VGT games. Drawings are held every Sunday through Wednesday at the following times:

Sunday – 7 pm
Monday – 3 pm
Tuesday – 10 pm
Wednesday – 11 am

Ten daily winners will be selected

at each drawing time Sunday through Wednesday for \$250 in cash! All daily winners will be invited to return for the grand finale, along with 20 additional qualifiers on Tuesday, May 29 for a chance at winning \$5,000 at 7 pm, \$2,500 at 8 pm, \$2,500 at 9 pm, and \$7,500 at 10 pm!

SPRING INTO CASH (LADIES NIGHT)

Ladies, come in and swipe your Players Club card for one entry into each Monday night's drawing for a chance at \$3,000! You may also earn additional entries by winning a jackpot of \$10 or more on any Nova game. Cash drawings will be conducted at 7 pm for \$1,000, 8 pm for \$500, 9 pm for \$500, and 10 pm for \$1,000. Each winner, along with 100 additional qualifiers (female or male) will be awarded a key certificate for the Grand Prize drawings on May 21 for a chance to open a vault containing \$5,000, \$8,000, or \$10,000!

SENIORS BUCKS AND BREAKFAST

Seniors, we have the perfect getaway just for you! Guests 55 and up will receive a \$4 off coupon for the breakfast buffet at the Full Moon Café and \$5 match play on designated machines. A weekly drawing will be held on Tuesdays at 11 am for a lucky senior to win a one night stay at the Cedar Rock Inn Bed and Breakfast.

SPRING INTO CASH (MEN'S NIGHT)

Guys, every Wednesday night through May 16 you will have your chance at \$3,000 in cash drawings. All male customers may begin swiping in at 6 pm for hourly drawings from 7 pm – 10 pm and may earn extra entries by playing Cadillac Jack machines. Drawings will occur at 7 pm for \$1,000, 8 pm for \$500, 9 pm for \$500, and 10 pm for \$1,000. Each winner, along with 100

additional qualifiers (female or male) will be awarded a key certificate for the Grand Prize drawings on May 23 for a chance to open a vault containing \$5,000, \$8,000 or \$10,000!

POKER PROMOTIONS:

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold'em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 pm and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma's most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9:30 am. The tournaments are open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$50.00.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS

Ladies Night Texas Hold'em tournaments start at 7 pm every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

MEN'S NIGHT – THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino's Men's Night no-limit Texas Hold'em tournament starts at 7 pm every Wednesday, with

registration beginning at 6:30 pm (\$115 total buy-in). Now with an extra \$1,000 added to the pot each week!

TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS

Losing Never Felt So Good! Creek Nation Casino's new Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots consist of three separate progressive jackpots awarded to hands of aces full of jacks losing to a better hand. The jackpot is currently at \$50,000!

TEXAS HOLD'EM HIGH HANDS

Good hands are hard to come by, and at Creek Nation Casino, Texas Hold'em high hands pay bonuses 24 hours a day, seven days a week with progressive bonuses on four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush hands increasing \$100 a day.

COMPETE FOR A SEAT: \$50,000 WORLD SERIES OF POKER FREE ROLL TOURNAMENT

Be one of Creek Nation Casino's top 40 poker players with the most hours or most tournament points to be awarded a seat into our \$50,000 World Series of Poker Free Roll Poker Tournament. Earn additional entries every time you buy in. See Poker Room for more details.

MNBE recognizes workers at USAMITC



Woody Anderson, MNBE Business Development Manager listens as Ralph Bradford, MNBE Team Lead, addresses the group at USAMITC.



Gene Ann Dixon, Tier 1 Specialist is being presented a plaque by Second Chief Berryhill for her outstanding performance at USAMITC.



Shane King, Tier 1 Specialist is being presented a plaque by Second Chief Berryhill for his outstanding performance at USAMITC.



Frank Niewierski, help desk Specialist IV is shown being presented a plaque by Second Chief Berryhill in recognition of his outstanding performance at USAMITC. Frank Morales, MNBE Southwest Regional Manager assists in the presentation of the plaque.



Pictured left to right: MNBE employee Kevin McDonald, Sr. System Analyst, MNBE Southwest Regional Manager Frank Morales and MNBE employee George Hollis, DT&E Support Services/Sr. System Analyst. Second Chief Berryhill is presenting McDonald and Hollis plaques in recognition for their outstanding performance at USAMITC



Second Chief Berryhill, Chairman of the Board for MNBE and Frank Morales, MNBE Southwest Regional Manager present Kelly Siwecki, Quality Management Specialist with a set of ball sticks in recognition of his outstanding performance while working for MNBE at USAMITC.

Preparations for the 2007 “Pink Party.”



2006 “Pink Party” balloon release

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center planning committee is beginning preparations for the 2007 “Pink Party.” This year’s event will be held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex on October 17, 2007.

Tentative plans are to rent a tent to house the event since attendance has increased over the past four years. Amos Rabbit, Muscogee (Creek) citizen, is busy designing the art work for this year’s event.

The keynote speaker for this year’s program will again be Linda Burhansstipanov, Dr. PH, from the Native American Cancer Research Corp. The Pink Party is open to everyone.

Depending on funding, plans are to host a brunch for breast cancer survivors to be held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Elderly Nutrition Center. The brunch will be open to all breast cancer survivors who pre-register. Pre-registration for the survivor’s brunch will begin in September 2007.

An event of this size cannot be successful without the cooperation and assistance of many employees and contributing entities. According to the planning committee, the success of the past Pink Party’s wouldn’t ne possible without the support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Administration and National Council.

The goal of the Pink Party is to heighten awareness, detection, treatment, and prevention of breast cancer.

For further information, call the Okmulgee Indian Health Center Women’s Clinic at (918) 758-2717.

Diet vs. Exercise

What’s the best way to lose weight?

By William Fixico, MCN Diabetes Exercise Program Manager Sapulpa

SAPULPA — Summer is coming and you’re probably wondering – what’s the best way to lose the extra weight? The two ways most people choose to lose the extra weight are by dieting or exercising. But which one of these methods is the healthier way. Let’s take a look at both and compare the two.

Diet Only Approach: A “diet” is often just a temporary change of one’s eating habits in order to shed weight quickly. Dieting is just a quick fix to lose weight. By dieting you often don’t get all the nutrients the body needs. The major drawback of dieting is that, once you stop the diet, the pounds you lose return and you may gain additional pounds. Instead of following the latest diet, educate yourself by reading and talking to a registered dietitian about a sensible eating plan. A healthy eating plan will help you control your blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

Exercise Only Approach: Exercise can change the way you look, feel and perform. Regular physical activity has a positive impact on your health and every aspect of your life. Having an active lifestyle will strengthen your heart, tone up the muscles, keep the bones stronger and boost your energy level. More energy means a more productive life whether it’s work or play. Regular exercise can help prevent diabetes, lower blood pressure and improve blood sugar control. Exercise is the key to losing weight and also helps to maintain the weight you worked so hard to lose.

To get the best of both worlds, don’t choose between the two; allow diet and exercise to support one another. A well balanced diet fuels your exercise and supplies you with needed nutrients. Exercise burns excess calories and you achieve all the health benefits that come with an active lifestyle.

CHR Program relocation

OKEMAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation CHR Program has re-located its office to 213 N. 2nd Street in Okemah. The CHR Program can be contacted by phone at (918) 623-1925 or by fax at (918) 623-0022.

Lucille Squirrel, Dispatcher, will be taking calls for appointments in the following areas; Wagnor County, Muskogee County, Creek and Tulsa Counties. Lucille will be assigned to work out of the Koweta Clinic CHR Office and will

Participants complete Healthy Heart Project and provide valuable experience

OKMULGEE — Healthy Heart participants, Jesse Colbert from the Eufaula Program and Bill Hill and Denzil Hughes from the Sapulpa Program met the goals of the project in December. Each lowered his blood sugar, blood pressure, blood cholesterol, weight and waist circumference into healthy ranges.

Each participant learned something different and expressed what they learned from the project. William Hill said, “The program certainly did me a lot of good.”

What Hill believes helped him the most is awareness. Keeping a food diary helped him keep track of what he ate. Writing down everything he ate helped him develop awareness.

Before starting the program, his fasting blood sugar was too high, but after starting the program and losing 20 lbs. his blood sugar is now in control. Hill also says he has more energy. Hill exercises 150 minutes a week - sometimes 200 minutes a week.

Denzil Hughes thinks any education on cardiovascular disease is helpful and knowing all the areas that you need to get into control.

Hughes has not been disappointed at all with the project. Hughes likes meeting with other people and learning from their experiences.

“I completely changed the way of my eating,” said Jesse Colbert. Colbert’s favorite food is biscuits and gravy and it’s still his favorite food but he learned to eat things in moderation. His style of cooking is different (i.e. less frying). Colbert also said he began exercising more.

“Learning to exercise more and better than I had been was important in reaching heart health,” said Colbert. “I also learned to read food labels and find what ingredients in foods raised blood sugars and increased blood pressure.”

Colbert said he used to think food was labeled either “good” or “bad” but now he knows what foods are better for him.

“The Healthy Heart Program was good for me and it would be good for anyone else interested in losing weight and getting their blood sugar under control,” said Colbert.

For more information about participating in the Healthy Heart Project, contact Kara Lee at (918) 756-3334, ext 253.

Standardizing and improving laboratory tests for diabetes



Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Each year in the United States, diabetes is diagnosed in about 800,000 people. Diabetes mellitus is a chronic metabolic disorder affecting the body’s ability to make or use insulin. Insulin is the hormone that transports glucose from digested nutrients into the body’s cells for energy and growth.

Diabetes causes a variety of disabling and life-threatening complications and is the leading cause of nontraumatic amputations, blindness among working-age adults, and end-stage kidney disease. National Center for Environmental Health’s (NCEH) Division of Laboratory Sciences (DLS) has established a special program to standardize and improve the laboratory tests used to predict, diagnose, and monitor diabetes and its complications.

This program pools expertise from several areas, including clinical chemistry, molecular biology, and newborn screening. Specific targets for improvement include tests for biomarkers (genes and proteins) that can help predict type 1 (insulin-dependent) diabetes in children before it occurs, tests used to monitor glucose control in people with diabetes who are undergoing treatment, and tests to help anticipate which people with diabetes are most likely to suffer kidney damage.

Current Research at DLS

Understanding Type 1 Diabetes

With funding from DLS, the Pacific Northwest Research Institute has established the first partnership with a state public health laboratory to better understand type 1 diabetes in children. In type 1 diabetes, the body does not produce insulin and it is referred to as insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM).

People with type 1 diabetes must use insulin injections to control their blood sugar. Using dried blood spot samples taken from 30,000 children for newborn screening by the Washington State Public Health Laboratory, researchers used a new technology called the reverse microarray to analyze for the major genetic variants that influence risk for type 1 diabetes.

The reverse microarray technology allows such testing to be done with much higher throughput and lower cost than any alternative testing methods.

About 5,000 children whose genetic composition puts them at higher risk for type 1 diabetes will be recruited into this surveillance study.

Following these children will lead to a better understanding of the origin of the disease and allow the children to access clinical trials that will assess the value of early intervention and treatment options.

Genetic Testing

DLS is researching genes involved in susceptibility and protection to type 1 diabetes through state-of-the-art molecular techniques. The genes involved in renal disease of type 1 diabetics are also being studied in detail.

Autoantibody Standardization

Samples are monitored for three crucial antibodies that the body will produce when eliciting an immune response to non-foreign cells. Early detection of these antibodies is valuable, as the patient will most likely develop type 1 diabetes if all three are detected. More information on this topic can be found in the Genetics section.

Harmonizing Glucometer Measurements

Measurement of the blood glucose concentration by patients with diabetes is an integral part in diabetes management. These measurements are performed by the patients themselves using hand-held blood glucose monitors. DLS performed studies to assess the variability of these meters and developed methods and procedures that allow the assessment of their accuracy. This will help to reduce the variability among meters and improve patient care. DLS has also supported efforts to explore new means and technologies to measure a patient’s glycemic status such as the use of microneedles to measure glucose in interstitial fluids from the skin.

Standardizing Diabetes Measurement

The goal in diabetes management is to control a person’s blood glucose values so that they are to be within the range seen in people without diabetes. The hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) test measures the amount of glucose in a person’s blood over a 2 - to 3 - month period and is a good indicator of diabetes control. Higher levels of HbA1c may mean that a person’s diabetes is out of control.

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) has set specific diabetes treatment goals for HbA1c.

For this reason, the test must be accurate-otherwise, health care providers won’t have the right information to make good decisions about treating patients with diabetes.

DLS helps to improve the measurement of HbA1c nationally by supporting the efforts of the National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program (NGSP) and internationally by contributing to standardization efforts by the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) as an IFCC A1c reference laboratory.

Statistics

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 135 million people suffer from diabetes worldwide and this number will rise to 300 million by the year 2025. DM and its complications are the leading causes of death in the United States. People with diabetes are two to four times more likely to suffer from cardiovascular disease or from a stroke (JDF).

Renal failure and diabetic retinopathy, often resulting in blindness, are also frequent complications.

Diabetes costs the nation nearly \$132 billion a year - \$92 billion in direct medical costs and another \$40 billion in indirect costs due to lost productivity.

A few words from the dietician on chocolate

**By Melissa Scheef, RD/LD
Diabetes Dietitian, Sapulpa Clinic**

SAPULPA — We have just wrapped up the Valentine’s season and are seeing chocolate. Everyday, I see many of you sitting across from me saying that your blood sugars have been too high lately because you have over done it on ...the chocolate.

The chocolate is not necessarily the enemy; just watch the portion sizes and how often you are giving in to your cravings. If you have been through EPIC (Educating Partners In Care – MCN’s series of classes for persons with diabetes) then you should remember that there are no “bad” foods. All foods can fit into a healthy eating plan. I once heard a fellow dietitian refer to chocolate as “soul food”, as in “a little chocolate once in a while, is good for the soul”.

Dark chocolate, in particular, has been shown to have some health

benefits. Now this does NOT classify it as “health food” because it is still high in fat and calories. But, now and then, dark chocolate can provide us with a tasty dose of flavonoids.

Flavo-whats? Everyday, our bodies are invaded by unwanted pests called “free-radicals”. Free radicals are on a search and destroy mission to cause cancer, heart disease, and other problems. Flavonoids, a type of natural antioxidant, help to battle the free radicals and make our bodies healthier.

We want to eat and drink as many antioxidants as we can each day. Fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and teas are other great sources of antioxidants. Cocoa powder ranks first among the chocolate products, followed by dark and milk chocolates (white chocolate does not contain

any flavonoids). Look for dark chocolate products made with 60-70% cocoa.

Are there any other benefits to eating dark chocolate? Yes, several studies from respected medical journals suggest that eating moderate (again, watch the portion sizes!) amounts of dark chocolate may help lower high blood pressure, improve insulin resistance, increase insulin sensitivity, and ease premenstrual symptoms.

These studies were all small in size and are still being followed up to determine if they were accurate in their conclusions. I am not advising anyone that if they eat dark chocolate, that they will have lower blood pressure, lower blood sugar, and fewer menstrual cramps (sorry, wish I could make those promises!).

We must not forget to mention the fat and calories in chocolate. Dark chocolate has fewer calories and fat grams

than milk or white chocolate, but we still cannot call it “skinny” food. Not all of the fat in dark chocolate is “bad” either. The fat is made up of equal parts oleic acid, stearic acid, and palmitic acid. Oleic acid is a monounsaturated fat (a good type of fat that helps raise your “good” cholesterol and lower your “bad” cholesterol). Stearic acid is rather neutral and does not raise or lower cholesterol. The only “bad guy” in the group is the palmitic acid which can raise bad cholesterol levels.

So what is a “proper portion size”? If you are counting carbohydrates, then read the nutrition facts panel to determine how much you would have to eat before hitting the 15 gram limit (for one serving of carbohydrate). If counting

carbohydrates is not something you must do for blood sugar control, then a couple of “mini” chocolate bars, or chocolate Easter eggs (or 2-3 squares of a large bar), every once in a while is fine.

If you want more information on chocolate, fat, calories, eating healthy, or have any other food related questions, call your local MCN clinic and ask for the dietitian.





New Tradition Clinic

2121 S. 125th E. Ave, Suite 103 - Tulsa, OK 74129

Dr. Lois Beard, DO

Diabetic Footcare Specialty Clinic

Finally! Hope for Diabetes

If you have had Diabetes for 7-10 years, come into our clinic for preventive foot care therapy once a month.

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL: 918.439.9060

NOTICE FROM HOUSING

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is requesting that the following list of applicants contact the Housing Admissions Department by May 15, 2007 in order to continue the processing or updating of previously submitted applications. Failure to contact Housing may result in no further processing of the application and may require you to reapply. You may contact Admission at 918-759-4143 or 1-800-259-5050 ext. 4143.

LISTED ARE LAST KNOWN ADDRESSES OF APPLICANTS

HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM - Applications Incomplete

Hannah E. Foreman 8222 S. 77th E. Ave. #1088 Tulsa, OK 74133	Shalon Lewis 1514 E. 2nd Okmulgee, OK 74447	Wayland Gray No address provided
Clint Hicks 1314 E. Dewey Sapulpa, OK 74066	Janet Nixon 802 B McIntosh Eufaula, OK 74432	
Casey Hinton 1532 W. 59th St. S. Tulsa, OK 74107	Alicia Stroble 1605 E. 4th St. Okmulgee, OK 74447	

REHAB OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES - No Respose to Update Requests

Benjamin Boulware, Jr. 6941 E. 5th Tulsa, OK 74112	Inez Guinn RT. 2, Box 1154 Checotah, OK 74426	Margaret Longhorn Rt. 1 Box 408 Sapulpa, OK 74066
Marjorie Chalakee 603 W. Yuchi Okmulgee, OK 74447	Dixie Henry P. O. Box 842 Henryetta, OK 74437	Solomon Monahwee 309 N. 2nd Henryetta, OK 74437
Mary Clark P. O. Box 331 Coweta, OK	Alice Hess 11230 W. 45th St. S. Muskogee, OK 74401	Evelyn Rhine 906 W. Division Henryetta, OK 74437
Rickey Davis 2460 N. 17th W. Muskogee, OK 74401	Grady Johnson Rt. 4, Box 171 Okemah, OK 74859	Sharon Shurley 615 E. 10th Holdenville, OK 74848
Harry Douglas Rt. 4, Box 209-A Okemah, OK 74859	Leona Josie P. O. Box 841 Henryetta, OK 74437	James Tiger 1162 E. 143rd St. Glenpool, OK 74033
Jimmie Dyer HC 60 Welty, OK 74882	Bobbie Joslin 213 E. 7th Weleetka, OK 74880	Stephanie Vanterpool 1102 S B St. Muskogee, OK 74403
Kimberly Epperson Rt. 3, Box 417 Henryetta, OK 74437	Twylla Kindell RR 2, Box 655 Checotah, OK 74426	Vickie Wyrick 6485 Hornbeck Rd. Henryetta, OK 74437
Easter Fixico, III 600 N. 5th Morris, OK 74445	Virginia Lancaster 308 E. Stadium Road Bixby, OK 74008	

REHAB OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES - Incomplete Applications

Christine Acherman 109 N. 12 Okemah, OK 74859	Donna Givens 210 E. 2nd Castle, OK 74833	Billie Mantooth Rt. 4, Box 351 Broken Arrow, OK 74014
Cecilia Allen 701 N. Prairie Okmulgee, OK 74447	Norma Hawkins 5020 S. 67th E. Ave., #215 Tulsa, OK 74145	Chessie McIntosh 12911 S. 79th E. Ave. Bixby, OK 74008
Mary Bigpond 232 Cape Dr. Bristow, OK 74010	Martha Kelley 701 SE 4th St. Checotah, OK 74426	Revennie Tiger 1520 Northaven CT. Sapulpa, OK 74066
Ace Buckner 102 N. Otis Dustin, OK 74839	Jessica Landers 211 N. 2nd St. Morris, OK 74445	Curtis Whisenhunt 411 East Spauldin Checotah, OK 74426
Lisa Crippen Rt. 2, Box 123 Okemah, OK 74426	Doris Laughin HC 63, Box 51 Eufaula, OK 74432	Jimmie Wildcat 234 S. Indianapolis Tulsa, OK 74112
Nellie Davidson Rt. 3, Box 3150 Checotah, OK 74426	Sterling Lewis 401 E. 1st Beggs, OK 74421	Sherman Woodworth 1810 Turner Street Muskogee, OK 74403
Theresa Erkaya 2600 E. 76th St. S. Muskogee, OK 74403	Patrick Lewis 325 E. Broadway Okemah, OK 74859	Delicia White HC 62, Box 109b Eufaula, OK 74432
Velma Foster 516 Lexington St. Muskogee, OK 74403	Nancy Long 108 Lou Dr. Holdenville, OK 74848	
Senoria Frenchman P. O. Box 586 Eufaula, OK 74432	Eugene D. Lowe 6922 E. 138th Rd. Holdenville, OK 74848	

EMERGENCY PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES - Incomplete Applications

Steven Hummingbird P. O. Box 704 Okemah, OK 74859	Josephine Wright Rt. 2, Box 28 Dustin, OK 74839	Anviel Winn 17820 McKinley Rd. Okmulgee, OK 74447
Mary Hill P. O. Box 511 Dustin, OK 74839	Sheila Harjo 417 N. Taft Okmulgee, OK 74447	Cynthia Tiger 12307 S. Sheridan Rd. Bixby, OK 74008



Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Contracting/Employment Opportunities

If you live in HUD assisted housing you may qualify as a section 3 resident or a section 3 business and may be eligible for contracting and/or employment opportunities. Please contact Mr. Alan Kelley at 918-752-3249 for more information.

Dr. Coser Named New President of Muscogee Nation College

OKMULGEE — On Feb. 5 Pete G. Coser, Ed. D. was honored to receive the position to be the President of the College of the Muscogee Nation. “It is an honor to have this position, and also an honor to have the Board of Regents select me for President,” said Coser.

Coser has been in education for 35 years, higher education for 24 years, OSU Stillwater facility and staff for 21 years and Rogers State for one year on facility and staff.

Coser has many years experience in education and has many qualifications for President, his educational history consists of :Okmulgee High School, Okmulgee, OK, Diploma, 1968; Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant, OK, BSed, 1972; MBS, 1974; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR, EDD, 1985; Major Fields: Higher Education Administration, Student Personnel Services, Sociology; Psychology Coser previously worked at Muscogee (Creek) Nation Human Development as the Director for a

year and a half.

Some of Cosers professional positions consists of : Dallas Independent School District; Dickson Consolidated School District; Tulsa Indian Youth Council, Inc.; Rogers State



University; Tahlequah Public Schools; Oklahoma State University-Stillwater, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, College of the Muscogee Nation; Course Instruction, Leadership Concepts, American Indian Leadership, Teacher Education Seminar: Multicultural Issues in Educa-

tion, Contemporary Issues in Education: Multiculturalism in the Classroom, OSU-Stillwater; Indians of Oklahoma, American Indian Literature & Arts, Contemporary Indian Issues, Rogers State University; American Indian Leadership, OSU-Okmulgee

Coser lives in Stillwater with his wife Joy, and their is also a family house in Okmulgee. Coser and Joy have three kids Kim, Pete, and Ashleigh.

The College of the Muscogee Nation is located in Okmulgee, and is willing to help any Creek citizen with education. Coser works with a staff of six, and says “I have a good staff, good people working with me,” “I also have good support from all branches at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.”

For more information about Coser or College of the Muscogee Nation contact the college at (918)758-1480. Office hours are Monday - Friday and hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

JOM Survival of the Future Begins Today

OKLAHOMA CITY — “JOM~ Survival of the Future Begins Today”, was the theme of the 2007 Oklahoma Statewide JOM Conference. The Conference was held from March 25th thru the 28th at the Southern Hills Marriott as a joint effort between the Oklahoma City BIA Area Office, Cherokee Nation, Choctaw Nation, Chickasaw Nation and the Muscogee Creek Nation.

There were close to 700 people who attended this year’s conference with several JOM programs being presented from outside the state of Oklahoma. This year’s conference focused on the issue of the JOM national funding cut. The National JOM Association Board attended the conference as well as held a JOM 101 training, legislative forum and technical training workshops.

The JOM program nationwide was zeroed out in the national budget by President Bush and was placed back into the budget by a continuing resolution from Congress. The continuing resolu-

tion from Congress came about from the efforts of the National JOM Association Board, Chief Pyle of the Choctaw Nation, Chief Earl Old Person of



the Blackfeet Nation and Chief A.D. Ellis of the Muscogee Nation.

President Bush has once again zeroed out the JOM national budget for 2008. Efforts are now

being made by tribal leaders and JOM programs throughout the nation to hold the BIA accountable for their trust responsibilities to meet the special and unique needs of our Indian students.

The Oklahoma Statewide Conference gives an opportunity for JOM programs throughout the state to network together and share their program successes and to showcase their students’ talents. This year at the banquet, before the closing prayer by Representative Mike Berryhill, Trevor Frank, a freshman JOM student at Glenpool High School lead the closing Creek hymn “Espoketayes” with the voice well beyond his years. We credit his parents Newman and Florence Frank, both members of the JOM parent committee at Glenpool in guiding this young Creek man both in his formal education as well as in his Muscogee heritage. Representative Berryhills inspirational words in his closing remarks and prayer made it very clear that we must teach our children to succeed and that they are our future.

“X-TREME KNOWLEDGE IS POWER” YOUTH SUMMIT

DURANT— “X-Treme Knowledge is Power”, a 2007 Youth Summit, will be held at the Choctaw Coliseum in Durant, Oklahoma on Tuesday June 5, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Summit, designed to be an educational and motivational fun filled experience, will help youth ages 14-21 prepare for the employment challenges of the future. This event will feature live educational and motivational entertainment including former Astronaut John Herrington; Olympic gymnast Shannon Miller; Team Thunder, a race car demo presentation focusing on the importance of math and science skills;

and Thunder X, a show featuring youth performing daredevil motorcycle stunts.

All organizations/agencies providing services to youth will be invited to sponsor youth for participation in this dynamic event. Registration is \$15 per person and will include a sack lunch, snacks, and an “Xtreme Knowledge” gym bag filled with occupational and educational materials and other goodies. For registration information, contact Kerry Manning or Lorrie Wright at 1-866-493-5465 or 580-924-5331.

This event is being provided to area youth

courtesy of The Governor’s State Youth Council, Choctaw Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Creek Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Southern Workforce Board, Southeastern Workforce Board, KEDDO, Big Five Community Services, Oklahoma Department of Career Tech, Kiamichi Technology Center and the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation. Corporate sponsors will receive free advertisement during the event. Anyone wishing to donate time, materials or resources to help make this event a success, please contact Sherlynn Danderson at 580-924-8280, Extension 2203.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MINORITY STUDENTS GOING UNCLAIMED:

IOWA CITY, IA — Unused funds are being returned to donating companies.

A large amount of scholarship money that has been set aside by companies for deserving minority students are either collecting dust or being returned to businesses because of a lack of interest. The following is a list of scholarships and their Web addresses to pass along so that this free money will not go to waste.

- 1) Bell Labs Fellowships for under-represented minorities <http://www.bell-labs.com/>
- 2) Student Inventors Scholarships <http://www.invent.org/collegiate/>
- 3) Student Video Scholarships <http://www.christophers.org/vidcon2k.html>
- 4) Coca-Cola Two-Year College Scholarships <http://www.coca-colascholars.org/programs.html>
- 5) Holocaust Remembrance Scholarships <http://holocaust.hklaw.com/>
- 6) Ayn Rand Essay Scholarships <http://www.aynrand.org/contests/>
- 7) Brand Essay Competition <http://www.instituteforbrandleadership.org/IBLEssayContest-2002Rules.htm>
- 8) Gates Millennium Scholarships <http://www.gmsp.org/nominationmaterials/read.dbm?ID=12>
- 9) Xerox Scholarships for Students http://www2.xerox.com/go/xrx/about_xerox/about_xerox_detail.jsp
- 10) Sports Scholarships and Internships <http://www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html>
- 11) National Assoc. of Black Journalists Scholarships (NABJ) <http://www.nabj.org/html/studentsvcs.html>
- 12) Saul T. Wilson Scholarships (Veterinary) <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/mb/mrphr/jobs/stw.html>
- 13) Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org/sk_v6.cfm
- 14) Fin Aid: The Smart Students Guide to Financial Aid scholarships <http://www.finaid.org>
- 15) Presidential Freedom Scholarships <http://www.nationalservice.org/scholarships/>

- 16) Microsoft Scholarship Program <http://www.microsoft.com/college/scholarships/minority.asp>
- 17) Wired Scholar Free Scholarship Search http://www.wiredscholar.com/paying/scholarship_search/pay_scholarship_se
- 18) Hope Scholarships & Lifetime Credits <http://www.ed.gov/its/hope/>
- 19) William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship for Minority Students <http://www.apsanet.org/PS/grants/aspen3.cfm>
- 20) Multiple List of Minority Scholarships <http://gehon.ir.miami.edu/financial-assistance/Scholarship/black.html>
- 21) Guaranteed Scholarships <http://www.guaranteed-scholarships.com/>
- 22) BOEING scholarships <http://www.boeing.com/companyoffices/educationrelations/scholarships>
- 23) Easley National Scholarship Program <http://www.naas.org/senior.htm>
- 24) Maryland Artists Scholarships <http://www.maef.org/>
- 26) Jacki Tuckfield Memorial Graduate Business Scholarship (for AfrAm students in South Florida) <http://www.jackituckfield.org/>
- 27) Historically Black College & University Scholarships <http://www.iesabroad.org/info/hbcu.htm>
- 28) Actuarial Scholarships for Minority Students <http://www.beanactuary.org/minority/scholarships.htm>
- 29) International Students Scholarships & Aid Help <http://www.ief.a.org/>
- 30) College Board Scholarship Search <http://cbweb10p.collegeboard.org/fundfinder/html/fundfind01.html>
- 31) Burger King Scholarship Program <http://www.bkscholars.csfa.org/>
- 32) Siemens Westinghouse Competition <http://www.siemens-foundation.org/>
- 33) GE and LuLac Scholarship Funds <http://www.lulac.org/Programs/Scholar.html>
- 34) CollegeNet’s Scholarship Database <http://mach25.collegenet.com/cgi-bin/M25/index>

- 35) Union Sponsored Scholarships and Aid <http://www.aflcio.org/scholarships/scholar.htm>
 - 36) Federal Scholarships & Aid Gateways 25 Scholarships Excel <http://www.blackexcel.org/25scholarships.htm>
 - 37) Scholarship & Financial Aid Help <http://www.blackexcel.org/fin-sch.htm>
 - 38) Scholarship Links (Ed Finance Group) http://www.efg.net/link_scholarship.htm
 - 39) FAFSA On The Web <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>
 - 40) Aid & Resources For Re-Entry Students <http://www.back2college.com/>
 - 41) Scholarships and Fellowships <http://www.osc.cuny.edu/sep/links.html>
 - 42) Scholarships for Study in Paralegal Studies <http://www.paralegals.org/Choice/2000west.htm>
 - 43) HBCU Packard Sit Abroad Scholarships http://www.sit.edu/studyabroad/packard_nomination.html
 - 44) Scholarship and Fellowship Opportunities <http://ccmi.uchicago.edu/schl1.html>
 - 45) INROADS internships <http://www.inroads.org/>
 - 46) ACT-SO “Olympics of the Mind” Scholarships <http://www.naacp.org/work/actso/act-so.shtml>
 - 47) Black Alliance for Educational Options Scholarships <http://www.baeo.org/options/private-lyfinanced.jsp>
 - 48) ScienceNet Scholarship Listing <http://www.sciencenet.emory.edu/undergrad/scholarships.html>
 - 49) Graduate Fellowships For Minorities Nationwide <http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Student/GRFN/list.phtml?category=MINORITIES>
 - 50) Rhodes Scholarships at Oxford <http://www.rhodesscholar.org/info.html>
 - 51) The Roothbert Scholarship Fund <http://www.roothbertfund.com>
- Rachel Garza Carreón Recruitment and Outreach Librarian University of Iowa Libraries Iowa City, IA 52242 phone: (319) 335-6441 rachel-carreon@uiowa.edu

Bacone News

New Program Highlights College Mission

MUSKOGEE — Bacone College is currently receiving nominations for Full Scholarships which cover Tuition,

Room, Board, Fees and Books for students interested in earning an Associates Degree in Business Administration starting in the Fall Semester. The program is open to students from any Federally or Non-Federally Recognized Tribe upon appropriate nomination from their Tribal Chief or Higher Education Office sent by their Nation to the Office of the President at Bacone.

This program is designed to provide the opportunity for a college degree to the neediest, under-funded student with a preference for Native American students. “It is the College’s mission to educate Native American students within a culturally diverse campus community. We want every Native American student , no matter what their financial situation is, to have the opportunity earn a college education,” said Rev. Dr. Robert J. Duncan Jr., President of Bacone College.

Students must be fully eligible for Pell and other governmental funding for higher education to receive the entire amount of scholarship. If he or she is not fully Pell eligible, that person may participate, but the difference between full/partial Pell will be the student’s responsibility.

This program includes an internship/work component wherein students are required to work up to 30 hours per week in areas of housing and hospitality at our Inn and on the campus. This is intended to provide a learning experience for students and encourage the dignity of earning their education.

The type of work included in this program includes (but is not limited to):

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Reception | 2. Marketing |
| 3. Hospitality | 4. Housekeeping |
| 5. Finance | 6. Management |
| 7. Maintenance | 8. Facilities Management |

The weekly schedule would normally include 3 nights of academic classes (6-10PM), a 1-hour Internship Seminar, one 8-hour shift (8AM-4PM or 12AM-8AM) and one 12-hour weekend shift (8AM-8PM or 8PM-8AM).

For more details contact Jerri Stoutermire, Dean of Enrollment Management at 918-781-7310.

Rev. Kyle Taylor appointed Director of Native American Student Programs

MUSKOGEE — In an effort to meet the needs of Bacone College’s students and to support the programs recently established for Native American student recruitment, Rev. Kyle Taylor has been appointed to serve as the Director of Native American Student Programs. In this capacity, Kyle will recruit the initial 50 student cohort of the Native American Students of Promise, and be responsible for planning curricular and social programs for that group. In addition, Kyle will serve as the supervisor for the Native Learning Work Community participants.

“Native Student Programs at Bacone College is where Academics, Spirituality and Culture come together like no place else in America.” -Kyle Taylor

The Students of Promise Scholarship pays for 35% of tuition, room and board to any new student to Bacone College. Students considered for the scholarship shall indicate their tribal affiliation on their application for admission and provide proper tribal identification.

For more details please email Kyle Taylor at taylork@bacone.edu.



Rev. Wilfred Brown joins Bacone College Staff

MUSKOGEE — Reverend Wilfred Brown has accepted the position of Dean of Students and College Chaplain effective March 26, 2007. Brown, ordained in 1984, had served on the Bacone College Board of Trustees from 2002 to 2007. “I am very pleased that Rev. Brown has chosen to join us at Bacone College so we can continue to advance our historic educational mission with native people within the context of Christian Community to our diverse student population”, said Rev. Dr. Robert Duncan Jr., President of Bacone College. In his new role, Rev. Brown will serve on the President’s Cabinet.

Brown (Kiowa/ Acoma Tribes) has worked with the American Baptist Churches in National Ministries for 11 years as National Coordinator of Intercultural Ministries- Indian Churches Strategist. Before working in National Ministries, he ministered at various churches including Osage Indian Baptist Church in Pawhuska, OK, Forest Hill Baptist Church in Idabel, OK, American Indian Baptist Church in Houston, TX, and First American Baptist Church in Hobart, OK. “I feel that Bacone is a great opportunity for me to be apart of, plus it is allowing me to slow down my travel schedule to spend more time with my family” said Brown. He is married to Kay Brown and they have three daughters- Faith, Hope, and Kristi. Of the approximate 2.5 million Native Americans that live in the United States, almost 96% of them do not attend church. Rev. Brown said, “Working at Bacone allows me to minister to the native students and help them attain a college education so they can follow in the footsteps of other great Bacone Alumni such as Patrick J. Hurley and Alexander Lawrence Posey. ”

CREEK NATION HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Higher Education Administration announces the availability of grants and scholarships for college students for the 07/08 academic year. Higher Education Grant Programs are:

- Self-Governance (BIA) Scholarship (need based) apply by June 1
- Tribal Grant apply by June 15
- Post-Graduate Grant Oct. 15 - Summer June 1
- Summer Tribal Grants June 1.

Eligibility:

- Be an enrolled member of Muscogee (Creek) Nation and possess a Tribal membership card and a CDIB card
- Must be pursuing a college level education and post graduate (first time degrees)
- Must apply for federal financial aid and campus based aid (Packets may be obtained through the High School counselor or Financial Aid Office at the college/university.)
- Complete applications must be submitted before the closing dates.

Continuing students who have applications on file and have met all requirements need not apply, but to complete a renewal forms that is currently being mailed. Continuing graduate students need only to send grades, class schedule and a letter of intent before the new term.

Applications requests are now being accepted by writing or may be downloaded from the website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/humandeve/hum_highereduc.htm Listed requirements must be attached to each application. Incomplete applications will be returned. For further information, please contact the Creek Nation Higher Education Department, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or Ph: (918) 732-7690 exts. 7691, 7692

JOM Scholarship Deadline Near

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Johnson O’Malley program is proud to announce once again it is time for the JOM Scholarship Awards. The scholarships are opened for qualifying JOM senior students within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM service area.

JOM will be awarding 16 scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 each. There are no income guidelines and all JOM senior students are welcomed to apply. The JOM office will be receiving applications until the April 20, 2007, 5:00 p.m. deadline and notifications will be made

the first week in May.

The JOM program is happy to support our JOM students in their educational endeavors each year as we try to provide an avenue of financial support. We hope you will encourage your senior students to apply for this scholarship. Applications are available through the local school JOM Coordinator or you can click on the link below to download the application. Questions should be directed to JOM office at (918) 732-7843 or (918) 732-7839.

FEATURES

RELIGION- B3

Nation provides Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church with Transportation



LIFESTYLES- B4

Bearden Bears win Oklahoma Rural Elementary Schools State Championship



LIFESTYLES- B5

Yuchi Student finishes at Dartmouth: Katie Grounds



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

April 2007

Creek Council House Indian Art Festival continues to educate public

By: Ted Isham

ALBUQUERQUE — The Creek Council House Museum originally established the Council House Indian Art Festival as a celebration of Native American arts and culture. A venue for new artists and a showcase for established artists. It fostered a community of support for area artists and provided a way for the museum to achieve its mission: to educate the public to the art, history and culture of the Muscogee (Creek).

It began in 1988, when the Council House Indian Art Market (the festival's name at that time) was held for two days on the first weekend in October of each year with an Intertribal Pow Wow as the festival's anchor event. Over the years the focus of the festival became more Creek centered and moved away from the Intertribal events.

In 2003, we were asked to join with the Creek Festival. At that point, the museum began to thoughtfully plan, not just the transition the time of the Festival from the fall to Creek Festival; but, also the focus of the festival. The name was changed to the Council House Indian Art Festival and educating the general public to Creek art and culture became the priority. Now there are Stomp Dance demonstrations, a living history told by way of an 1840's Creek/Seminole Hunting Camp, storytelling, and traditional arts demonstrations.

With help from the Creek Festival committee and the support of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, the 2007 Festival will see the next step in this evolution. Instead of a juried art competition we will feature Creek artist,



Kenneth Johnson, in a one-man show. In addition, Kenneth will also pass on his art, metalsmithing, to a select group of students. As we learn from others, as Creeks, we are encouraged to pass that knowledge along to those coming after us.

This keeps alive our artistic traditions which have long and deep roots. Going back to pre-history times during the moundbuilding eras, the iconography is very evident. The images left in the remnants of those mound sites have connections to the sacred and spiritual and have been a part of who we are for a very long time. Today that facet of who we are is still unmistakable in the richness and depth of our art. Masters such as Jerome Tiger, Acee Blue Eagle and Solomon McCombs are part of that legacy. They touched our soul and inspired new generations to express their deepest feelings. This new generation will bring about untold, wonderful expressions that will



surely become the legacy for the seventh generation of Creeks.

It is our responsibility to provide for every avenue for their success. A Mvskoke Arts Council is what is needed now to foster, nurture and invigorate this future: a council whose sole purpose will be to promote Creek artists and their works. Internationally renowned Creek artist, Joy Harjo, is actively working on establishing a Mvskoke Arts Council. Her goal is to bring all of the Mvskoke arts to a larger market and audience.

A Mvskoke Arts Council would be able to focus on the state of arts in Creek Country and be able to give direction to the future of Mvskoke arts. It can create venues that will allow artists to make a living and increase international awareness of Creek artistry.

A similar situation happened with the promotion of Southwestern arts. Now when the general public thinks of Indian art what they envision is Southwestern style art. It would be a great benefit for the individual Creek artists and the Nation for a newly educated public to have this same perception of Creeks and Southeastern arts.

This will help us achieve our goal of educating everyone about who we are – Creek People.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo, submitted march 21, 2007

NEW YORK CITY — Yesterday morning I sat out on the flat, lava stone who lives in the yard, while I waited for my ride to the airport. I took in all the breath I could. I knew that the next 24 hours would be marked by stale airport and airline air. In one day I've flown over 5,000 miles. I landed in New York City this morning, and haven't stopped. I made phone calls, prepped for a performance, met with friends and when we came out of an elevator who was catching a nap in the lobby of the foundation building but Winona LaDuke, the Anishnabe activist, writer and wonder woman. We surprised her. "Was I snoring?" She asked. "Yes" we replied, "and you were drooling, too." Not true. A few years ago we would have painted her up with lipstick, nail polish, ratted her hair and transformed her quietly while she slept. She got off easy.

Now it's almost midnight, and I'm back from a stroll around Times Square. At the center of the commotion is a 21st century totem pole. Flash and neon stacked images announce everything from credit cards to electronics to food that isn't really food. That kind of brilliance of technology and imagination is intoxicating. Night can be day.

Electricity is loud. There is no subtlety. The voice of the stone is lost here. Beneath the display of power, people roam the streets. Workers stack trash, unload boxes to restock the stores. Shows let out. Restaurants are lit up and full. Tourists gawk and photograph the lights and each other. Scammers slide through the shadows. A hot dog vendor puts up for the night. I wonder where he lives. Where does he store his cart? He'll be out here early tomorrow to start all over again. I wonder how many family members he's supporting, how he keeps warm as cold winds whip up from the mouth of the North and blow over from the river.

I was in southern India a few years back for collaboration with a dancer there. We rehearsed for a week before premiering a show with dancers, musicians and poetry. My musicians and I got to know our driver, Das. He was proud of his wife and three-year-old daughter, whose photographs he shyly shared with us. We assumed that when he left us at the end of the day, he was going home to them. The last day of our visit he revealed that he only got a few days off every three months to see them. The rest of the time he was permanently on call at all hours, in his taxi. There are many realms and realities on one street, in one moment. Each of these establishments depends on the lives of many workers. As I pass each person on the street, I take in their stories, I look for the shine, that gleam of promise we all carry. In some it burns bright. Others are tired or depressed and the flame flickers. One man was frightening, forced an involuntary shudder in me. He had mostly, deliberately, extinguished his light.

Like everyone else in the nation, I've been watching, listening to, and discussing the recent Cherokee decision to exclude Freedmen from Cherokee citizenship. And like others I recognize that this decision makes a direct hit to our citizenship concerns and issues a warning for our citizenship policies. I've heard all the historical reasons for including Freedmen as members, and all the historical reasons for excluding. I've heard that the Freedmen only want benefits but don't want responsibility of being tribal members. And I've heard that we can't take care of the members we have now and adding Freedmen would overwhelm the system. I've heard that we are legally bound to include Freedman as tribal members; I've heard that we are not. It can be proved that many Freedmen who have documented Mvskoke blood have been deliberately excluded from citizenship because of race, while those who carry a predominance of European blood have been admitted as tribal members. I've heard that DNA testing would settle the issue once and for all, and I've heard that DNA tests are faulty and a tool for diminishment of our sovereignty. We have the



Harjo

Nazi experiment as an excellent example of what happens when a nation turns toward racial purity as measure of citizenship.

I've heard that being descended from the Dawes Rolls is the only measure of tribal citizenship, though the terrible irony is that the rolls were lists made by the colonizers who used these lists for diminishment of rights and lands. They are faulty for our purposes of verifying membership. Chitto Harjo, one of our most esteemed citizens refused to sign up to the Dawes Roll. Membership inconsistencies and falsehoods continue due to human fault and sometimes deliberate mistakes. (In my own family, my daughter Rainy is a member of her father's tribe, Acoma. Her mother is listed as her father's first wife, a Navajo. I gave birth to my daughter, I can verify that I am her mother! Yet, if the records are not changed, I will not be found.) I've heard personal family stories of how a particular Freedman did this or that and therefore this affirms that Freedmen should be denied tribal membership.

We can argue historical pros and cons, we can limit benefits and voting of membership according to blood quantum (and we already do that for those less than a quarter blood).

(And, by the way, what are all these benefits that are here for the taking? I, like many others, waited for the huge settlement that was coming our way in the early 70's. My Aunt Lois Harjo Ball and her generation had waited since childhood for the big check. When the settlement finally paid out, my check covered a couple of weeks of groceries. I received help with scholarship money for school and without that help I would not have been able to attend. Most of the benefits I receive are cultural and familial and cannot be measured with dollar amounts. More than anything is the responsibility of citizenship.)

Still what is wound dangerously behind and through the discussion are inflamed cords of rage and disgust. One root is directly related to the U.S. government and its forced policies and laws. We wouldn't have any of these problems of citizenship without the initial and continued interference of the U.S. government. We would still be operating under our traditional systems, systems based on talwa, or towns, and on relationships garnered by clan, family and direct connection to each other. In this system Freedmen, both those who had direct kinship, and those who did not, had an unquestionable place. In this system there was no doubt as to who was related to whom. Everyone had rights and responsibilities I imagine this system would have found a way to include relatives who move away and their children, as most of us naturally maintain a connection. The other root is an undisguised racism against people of African descent. I attribute this to colonizing policies in which we have learned to hate ourselves first, and then anyone who was just as dark or darker in skin color. This has become a race issue. I also attribute it to U.S. government policies of divide and conquer, from within, and without.

The bottom line question is what makes a tribal citizen, and secondly, what are the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship? The truth holding up the bottom line is the truth of the heart. What is right? What is honorable and what will stand up as just and true, despite the fashions and vagaries of interloper governments, of passing philosophies and policies? The decision must be free of racism and small mindedness. Whatever we decide must pass the test of the heart and spirit.

Once I traveled far above the earth. This beloved planet we call home was covered with an elastic web of light. I watched in awe as it shimmered, stretched, dimmed and shined, shaped by the collective effort of all life within it. Dissonance attracted more dissonance. Harmony attracted harmony. I saw revolutions, droughts, famines and the births of new nations. The most humble kindnesses made the brightest lights.

CulturalActivities

Students of Native American languages attend annual language fair

By: Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

NORMAN — Native American students, language instructors and a host of educators from across the state were on hand for the 5th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair held April 5-6 in Norman.

The fair, which is a competition for ages ranging from 3-19, was once again held on the campus of the University of Oklahoma at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. The museum's Native American Language curator, Mary Linn, was pleased with the number in attendance and the abilities of the competitors. "This is such a wonderful week for us here at the museum, I have barely been able to contain my excitement," said Linn. "It's imperative to real-



Several people were in attendance at the Fifth Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair on April 5-6 in Norman.

JASON SALSAMAN/MNN

ize how important it is that these languages be kept alive with the youth. To see their hard work and the fun that they're having competing with their peers is very special."

This year's fair was entitled "Powerful Languages, Powerful Lives" and included several categories of competition such as Spoken Presentation, Language with Song/Dance, Film/Video, Book-Making and Essay. In addition there were also poster art contests with the students getting a chance to incorporate their Native language in an artistic forum.

One of the unique facets of the competitions are the judges themselves. Judges for the fair include Native artists, authors, language teachers and even tribal elders. Students were critiqued

on how the language was used, the spirit of the performance itself and their effort. Creek Nation Council House Museum curator Ted Isham was selected as a judge, but explained his task as a difficult one. "It's so hard to be a judge for something like this, because all these kids here today are winners," said Isham. "It's such an honor just to be a small part of something like this." The Muscogee Language Program was heavily involved in the event as well, as several representatives served as judges, instructors and sponsors.

The statewide competition has grown considerably since its inception in 2003 drawing more than 350 participants this year competing in as many as 18 different Native languages. "It's really exciting that this fair has continued to grow at such a high rate," said Gloria McCarty, Muscogee language instructor at the University of Oklahoma. "So many people talk about our languages being in danger of dying, so pro-active exhibitions like this involving our youth are encouraging."

Each participant that competed was given an award, as the fair stuck to its mantra that "all kids are winners when they speak their Native languages!"

A report on a Veterans trip to Phoenix, Arizona

By Jackson Barnett,
Manager Creek Nation Senior Services

On March 21 at 9 a.m. in the morning, a total of 32 veterans and a couple of wives left Creek Nation for Phoenix, Arizona in three vans and two private vehicles. The occasion was to take part and help honor and commemorate the First Lady soldier lost in the Iraq War. Lori Piestewa of the Hopi tribe of Arizona was the first American Indian women soldier to be lost on foreign soil fighting for our country.

We spent Wednesday traveling to Albuquerque, New Mexico where we spent the night. Early next morning, we headed west for an hour and a half to Sky City Casino, run by the Acoma Tribe.

Real nice establishment with a very nice restaurant, clean, spacious, and a good breakfast. The workers there were very friendly and helpful. We enjoyed our visit and the breakfast. Afterwards, we headed west again and with needed stops along the way, we arrived in Phoenix, Arizona about dark. Mr. Phillip Coon of Sapulpa went all the way out to Grants, New Mexico to purchase a small set of tools. He was happy and proud with his purchase.

After getting our rooms, we all went out for dinner then settled in for the night. We needed to rest from our travel and be ready for the early reveille on Friday morning. We fell out around 5 a.m. and departed at 5:45 a.m. and headed to the mountains for the 6:30 a.m. sunrise service.

We had to park at the base the small mountain, which was named Piestewa a peak honoring Lori Piestewa. The name will become official sometime next year. We then walked some two hundred yards to the service area.

The service area began at 6:40 a.m. with a young lady of the Navajo nation singing “The Star Spangled Banner” in her native language. A very emotional and moving experience. A number of color guards then brought in and presented our Nation’s colors.

The tribal chairman and executive chairman of the Hopi Nation of Arizona spoke some in their native language and welcomed us. A representatives member, spoke and vowed to keep introducing bills to help and benefit Indian people in the state.

Helen Coon was called on to speak and sing a Mvskoke song. She asked for help and some twelve or 13 of us responded and we sang “God our Creator” and “Helliluya”.

The crowd seem to appreciate that



Jackson Barnett, Manager Creek Nation Senior Services

as they gave us a good hand. We were told later that as we sang, a cloud came from the west and seemed to settle of Piestewa Peak blanketing the summit for a few minutes then disappeared. The Hopi believe it was the spirit of Lori Piestewa coming back to visit.

When we finished singing, our Mvskoke color guard came front and center and presented Mrs. Piestewa with a shawl complete with our tribal logo. The shawl was provided by our color guard. The guard’s commander, Mr. Thomas Yahola, made the presentation. I then gave Mr. Piestewa a large glass cup on behalf of all of us from Creek Nation.

Some other singers and groups sang and other dignitaries spoke. It was then close to 9 o’clock and the service concluded with the color guard retrieving and retiring the colors.

The service was well attended with color guards coming from the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Nation, an ROTC division, one from Sacaton, Southern Arizona, the Buffalo Soldiers, the Black-foot tribe from Montana, and of course our from Creek Nation. It was good and uplifting to attend this sunrise service. In the few minutes I was given to speak, I spoke for all of us and brought to the people gathered there greeting from our Principal Chief, Mr. A.D. Ellis. I also extended an invitation to them to attend the grand opening of our Creek Nation Veterans Building in July. Perhaps some will return our visit and be our visitors on that special occasion.

An invitation was given to us to attend a luncheon at noon at a church. I believe all of us in my group and the eight who made the journey on their own from Okmulgee community attended and enjoyed a good lunch. As we were preparing to leave, we assembled out by the vehicles in two ranks, in two lines

for you not familiar with Military Jargon, and sent for Mr. and Mrs. Piestewa. We then presented them with an eagle feather furnished by Mr. Toske Willits, and a military right hand salute. We then departed to try to find the cook Christian training center for the Pow Wow that started at 1 p.m.

After a few dead ends and missed streets, we arrived at the Pow Wow approximately 2:30 p.m. It took some time to get everything organized. Finally the color guards were assembled and ready to bring in the colors. This entry was done with a pendleton blanket. Also, a dance was held for each branch of the military. So I had to dance along with the other six or seven “Swabbies”. We were all given a small gift of appreciation. We left before the Pow wow was over.

Later in the evening we attempted to find the Phoenix City Hall for a special candlelight Vigil honoring all former POWs and their families. We left early as the hall Atrium was space limited and there was hardly enough room for all. We then went to dinner and retired for the evening.

Saturday morning, our color guard pulled out and they had plans to drive back straight through and not stay over in Albuquerque. They assured me they had plenty of drivers to do that.

Thomas Yahola came to see me at work Wednesday to tell me they had made it home safely with no hitches. Then my other two vans left with the others with Mr. Brent Moffer in charge.

Brent has been on other trips with me and I have complete trust and confidence in him to get our people home safely. He came to see me also on Wednesday and reported that everything had gone smoothly.

I myself had driven my own vehicle and had arranged to stay around Phoenix an extra two days. I wanted to visit my niece and nephew who live and work there.

Also to try to locate some old high school buddies and sight see. My family lived there just west of Phoenix and my brother and I finished high school there.

In closing I say to all the seniors, veterans, the color guard and the eight Okmulgee community members who went, well done and I am very happy they were able to go and I am proud of them all. I believe we all represented ourselves, our families, and our Creek Nation well. Mvto to all!

Project EXPORT

University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center

This Program Project grant application (P60), submitted in response to RFA MD-03-003, “Project EXPORT,” will promote high quality, culturally competent, theoretically sound, and program-matically relevant research through a series of projects that promise to shed important light on the barriers as well as facilitators to improved health status and functioning of older American Indians and Alaska Natives.

This new, explicitly focused program project, through its synergistic relationship with the NERC/RCMAR, and CNHED and our larger network of organizations/institutions serving AIAN populations, will significantly increase both the extent of as well as subsequent capacity for health services research undertaken by American Indian/Alaska Native investigators, focused on a racial minority population among the most in need.

Towards these ends, the specific aims are to:

Provide an administrative structure that promotes excellence in research and research capacity-building specific to improving the health and well-being of American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

Plan and carry out an interdisciplinary, culturally grounded, problem-oriented research program of major scientific and programmatic importance to the health status and functioning of older American Indians and Alaska Natives, with particular emphasis on understanding and improving the) quality of diabetic care for AI youth; telepsychiatry; documenting obesity among AI infants and children; cancer; chlamydia screening with AI males; increasing fitness among urban AIAN youth; smoking cessation; development and understanding of the performance properties of a widely used health quality measure; assessing/improving the quality of mental health care for AI children

Structure and pursue career development opportunities for American Indian and Alaska Native investigators through intensive mentorship within the applied health research program

described herein.

Disseminate the results of this work as a means of guiding the design, conduct, and interpretation of future research specific to understanding and

reducing the health disparities that plague older adults in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

Assist individuals, provider organizations, and other institutions of higher education in planning and implementing similar health research and in maximizing the relevance of its outcomes for application in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

A unique, interdisciplinary cadre of health scientists, the majority themselves Native, has been assembled from across an existing collaborative network to address these aims.

They will staff the PP, which is organized in terms of 5 core components and 4 full research projects and 6 pilot projects.

The core components include: an Administrative Core, a Community Outreach/Dissemination Core, Training Core, a Research Core, and a Shared Resources Core. None are entirely new to the proposed effort, but instead capitalize on and extend the existing infrastructure provided by the NERC/RCMAR and CNHED.

The result is in an efficient, cost-effective investment that benefits all three programs, while advancing a research agenda that was previously envisioned, but awaited the resources available through this RFA to move to maturity.

Likewise, the research projects, which span the emphases relevant within the recently authorized Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Education Act of 2000.

For more information about Project EXPORT, contact: by phone, (303) 724-1414; by fax, (303) 724-1474; or by mail, American Indian and Alaska Native Programs, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Department of Psychiatry, Nighthorse Campbell Native Health Building, P.O. Box 6508, Mail Stop F800, Aurora, CO 80045-0508.



Recently a tribal citizen submitted this photo in hopes of identifying those pictured in the photograph. If you have any information about the identity of those photoed please contact the Muscogee Creek Nations Communications offices at (918) 732-7637 or mail us at Muscogee Nation News P.O. Box 580; Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Nation provides Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church with transportation



Pictured L to R: Kenrie Boyiddie, Allen Yargee, Pastor Rachel Boyiddie, and Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind.

By Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On March 16, Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind presented Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church with a 12 -passenger van. The van was purchased at the Jim McKay Ford Mercury Dealer.

Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church has about 30 members and is located 7 and a half miles South of Okemah on Highway 27.

Okfuskee District Representative Lena Wind stated, “We were always taught to tide growing up, I believe this is the Tribe’s way of tiding and giving.”

Pastor of the church Rachel Boyiddie had some thoughts to share on receiving the van. “Muscogee (Creek) Nation has blessed us with a van and a means of transportation, now we can bless others threw this blessing given to us. Its like a blessing within a blessing. This van will be used for picking up people for mission work, Vacation Bible School, youth trips, and home prayer services” says Pastor Rachel Boyiddie. “I would like to thank God for all the blessings that have been given to the church. Also, I would like to thank the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the National Council. And last but not least, I would like to thank Okfuskee District Representative, Lena Wind for all her concern with the church and its needs” says Pastor Rachel Boyiddie.

Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Association 4th Sunday Dates			
		Baptist S.S. Mission	
Alabama	Artusse	Butler Creek	Arbeka
Cedar Spring	Bemo	Cedar Creek	Big Arbor
Cold Spring	Beaver	Cedar Creek Eufaula	Cedar River
Forest Creek Mission	Bird Creek	Grave Creek	Hickory Ground #1
Hutchachuppa	Deep Fork Hillabee	Greenleaf	High Spring (Okemah)
Little Coweta	Hickory Ground #2	Nuyaka	High Spring (Konawa)
Little Quarsarty	Hillabee	New Joy	Little Cussetah
Many Springs	Mekusukey	Randall	Middle Creek #1
Okmulgee	Middle Creek #2	Ross Mission	New Arbor
Prairie Spring	Montesoma	Sand Creek	Rock Spring
Spring	Okfuskee	Sand Spring	Salt Creek
Weogufkee	Pigeon	Thewarthle	Snake Creek #1
West Eufaula	Sand Creek Eufaula	Tookparfka	Snake Creek #2
Yardeka	Silver Spring	Tuskegee	Seminole Baptist
Quarsada Alabama	Tulmochussee	Seminole Arbeka	Vian Creek
	Wetumka	Wekiwa	Trenton
		Wewoka	
April 1	April 8	April 15	April 22
April 29	May 6	May 13	May 20
May 27	June 3	June 10	June 17
June 24	July 1	July 8	July 15
July 22	July 29	August 5	August 12

District Court

continued from A2

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF D.N.
and J.N.
Deprived Children

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Lee Ross or unknown father of J.N. YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **4th** day of **June, 2007** at **9:00 a.m**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement.

YOURARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF J.M.
Deprived Children

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Michael Martinez or unknown father of J.M. YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **4th** day of **June, 2007** at **9:00 a.m**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

A Great Gathering

Bearer’s of the Cross and Fourth World Ministries invites everyone to walk with us, as they minister to the Hopi Nation.

A great gathering is about to happen in July. As First Nations People and those with a heart for the Native Americans, they invite you to join with them as they walk a walk of love, peace, and harmony for our brothers and sisters of the Hopi and Navajo Nations.

Join them, for this three day historic event! As they walk, rejoicing in song and worship native style. As ambassador of Christ they invite you to stand in the gap with them on behalf of the Hopi people.

The schedule of event are as follows: Walk for the Nation(s) on July 5, starting at the brink of dawn at the Kykotsmovi; Song & Praise Services on July 6, starting at noon at the Kykotsmovi; Worship Serve. & Guest Speakers on July 7 starting at 9 a.m. at the Kykotsmovi.

Their vision is to reach out in love, to their native brothers and sisters, accepting them as Christ accepted them, showing the love of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit as they intercede in praise and thanksgiving for the Hopi Nation, their community, and their churches.

Pray there will be a mighty movement among the First Nation’s people on 7-7-07 as Creator God reclaims these great nations, and their people; the First Americans to himself. They may not save the World but, they can help a nation. Their heart is of God, and God say’s...who will go? If you do not go for your people who will?

The mission of Bearer’s of the Cross (BOTC) is a non-profit faith based ministry to the Native American People as we demonstrate our spiritual biblical beliefs though Godly principals of love, peace, and harmony (with each other and all of creation). It is the heart of this ministry to identify the needs of the people and provide assistance to them through their local churches and communities.

The goal of BOTC is to see the needs of our brothers and sisters and respond to them in a Christian manner by working together to help an entire nation as (ambassadors/warriors) of Christ.

Bearer’s of the Cross (BOTC) seek the support from other groups an organizations (who can not otherwise travel to these remote locations) for prayer, donations, and gifts to accomplish and meet the needs of these precious people.

BOTC has partnered with Fourth World Ministries to provide and outreach

to the Hopi Nation. Reverend Donnie McNac is a member of the Creek Tribe and is from Oklahoma and is the founder of Bearer’s of the Cross. Donnie takes great honor in serving God and covets your prayers on this mission to the Hopi Nation.

For more information contact Donnie McNac at P.O. Box 676; Keams Canyon, Az. 86034, or call at (928) 738-2356, or (928) 206-9690.

Many Springs Baptist Church

HOLDENVILLE — Will be hosting their Homecoming Reunion Celebration on May 25, 26, and 27. This year’s celebration will include the Cornell Family Reunion.

All descendents of Willie Cornell are invited to come and participate in the Homecoming Celebration.

Activities will begin on Friday evening with a Registration Reception followed by an open microphone session for storytelling and singing.

Saturday morning will start with a continental breakfast at 9 a.m., dedication of the new Fellowship Hall will be at 4 p.m.

During the day there will be photo displays, sharing of old pictures, a volleyball tournament, a horseshoe tournament, a scavenger hunt, and other activities for all ages. Pleas bring your old photographs to share.

Saturday evening we will have a dinner followed by a gospel singing concert.

On Sunday morning during the church service, we will be recognizing the former pastors.

Activities will end with a potluck dinner at noon.

For more information contact Leona Brooks at (405) 379-7264 or Paula Willits at (918) 445-1155, or visit the website at www://manyspringshomecoming.com.

Tallahassee

OKMULGEE — I want to thank all of the Tallahassee Church friends and relatives for all their kindness. For all the help of the cooks, cards, and flowers. I couldn’t have made this without all you and especially Alfred Berryhill and Clara Ballard.

Thank you from my heart and God bless.



Hicks

the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement.

YOURARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF M.M.H.
Deprived Children

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **4th** day of **June, 2007** at **9:00 a.m**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement.

YOURARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Head Start to hold Career Fair

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program will be holding a career fair on April 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For anyone interested in employment or education opportunities, come by and visit.

The career fair will be held at Best Western – Okmulgee located at 3499 N. Wood Dr.

Bring your resumes! Refreshments will be

served. Use the West entrance and plenty of parking will be available.

Head Start Staff will be on hand to take application for the 2007-08 school year. Children must be three years old by Sept. 1, 2007.

For more information contact Susanne Barnett at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7899 or Tammy Lewis at ext. 7905.

BIRTHS

Ava Kinzlei Wa^y^u-Ne Benally

TULSA — Eli and Keisha Benally would like to announce the birth of their first daughter Ava Kinzlei Wa^y^u-Ne Benally

Ava was born March 18, 2007 at 9:16 p.m. at St. Johns Hospital in Tulsa. She weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz and 20 inches long.

She is Seminole, Euchee & Navajo.

Her maternal grandparents are Cynthia Kennedy of Glenpool and Jon Client (Rusty) Miller of Tulsa.

Her paternal grandparents are George and Cecelia Wittman of Bixby and Bobbie Benally of Farmington, New Mexico .

Her maternal great grandparents are Carl and Charlotte Cobb of Bixby; Mahonta Jo Burgess of Tulsa ; The late John D. Miller of Seminole.

Her paternal great grandparents are The late Hershel and Martha Nutt of Glenpool; The late Lester Benally Sr. and Mrs. Lillie (Yazzie) Bennally of Loop, Arizona



BIRTHDAYS

Dayton James

OKMULGEE — Dayton James celebrated his 4th birthday with family and friends on April 3rd with a Cars theme.

He is the son of Whitney Montgomery and Demarco James.

Maternal grandparents are Bryon and Michelle Hunter; Mark and Diana Montgomery.

Paternal grandparents are Mike and Angela James; Rochelle Fisher.

Maternal great-grandparents are Jean Montgomery; Micheal and Sheila Morris.

Paternal great-grandparents are Edward James and Stella Richardson.



Justin James

OKMULGEE — Justin James celebrated his 4th birthday with family and friends on June 6th.

He is the son of Renee Jones and Randy James Jr.

Maternal grandparents are Robert Jones and Yvonne Benson.

Paternal grandparents are Victoria Foster and Randy James.

Maternal great-grandparents are Elsie Roberts and Elmer Jones, Phillip and Susan Benson.

Paternal great-grandparents are Shirley and Bernard Wilson, Ed James and Ireatha Rice.



Mickinze Walker

OKMULGEE — Mickinze Walker celebrated her 6th birthday with family and friends on Dec. 4th.

She is the daughter of Mary LeGrand.

Maternal grandparents are Joe and Jean LeGrand.

Maternal great-grandparents are Marcel P. LeGrand and Pearline Day.



Michaela Jones

OKMULGEE — Michaela Jones celebrated her fourth birthday with family and friends on October 4th with a Tinker Bell theme.

She is the daughter of Steven and Lacy Jones.

Maternal grandparents are Paul and Stephanie Jones.

Paternal grandparents are Amos and Sheldon Starr; and David and Connie Miller.



Te^Vonte J. Goudeau

OKMULGEE — Te^Vonte J. Goudeu celebrated his 5th birthday with family and friends on Feb. 11 with a sports theme.

He is the son of Vanessa Manous and Oscar Goudeau.



Tenetke Birdcreek

OKMULGEE —Tenetke Birdcreek celebrated his fifth birthday with family and friends on October 17th with a Star Wars theme.

He is the son of Becky Lindsey.

Maternal grandparent is Millie Hill.

Maternal great-grandparent is the late Toney hill and Irene Hill.



Marcellis Factor

OKMULGEE — Marcellis Factor celebrated his fourth birthday on August 11 with family and friends.

He is the son of Cynthia Watashe and Ruben Factor.

Maternal grandparents are the late Charlene Coser- Watashe and Richard Watashe.

Paternal grandparent is Bonnie Factor.

Maternal great-grandparents are the late Amanda - Randall Coser and the late Charlie Coser.

Paternal great-grandparents are the late Betsy - Powell Factor and the late Joseph Factor.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Bearden Bears

BEARDEN —The Bearden Bears seventh and eighth grade team won the Oklahoma Rural Elementary Schools state championship on Sat., Feb. 24, at Seminole State College. They defeated Glover 39-20 in the finals and they ended with a perfect season with a record of 28-0. In front, from left are Colby Shandy, Vcenv Bowers, John Wingfield, Jacob Dennis, Josh Maples and Josh Speir. In back, from left are Dalton Shandy, Stoney Newton, Matthew Wood, Seth Newton, Wesley Gipson, Bret Tiger and Coach Jim Wingfield. Seth Newton, Gipson and Tiger made the All-Tournament Team, with Newton winning MVP of the state tournament.



Tribal citizens attend fundraiser for John Edwards

TULSA — Tribal citizens Larry L. Oliver and Eli Grayson attend a luncheon and reception for John Edward held on Feb. 14 at the home of Jim and Sally Fraiser.

Also, in attendance was Jane Cornell. She is the treasure of the business board of the Tulsa Indian Community Center.



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Photo not available at press time

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~Paid Advertisement by Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Cynthia J. Fox~

Yuchi Student finishes at Dartmouth

“I no longer viewed challenges as intimidating or discouraging, but as an opportunity to create change and confront prejudice and intolerance. Through adversity and despite setbacks, I graduated from Dartmouth with much more than a diploma. I had advanced and cultivated my goals while remaining true to myself and to my people.”

It’s unfortunate we sometimes hear about Native American kids failing academically at the High School and College level. A levy of reasons such as family or being far from home are sometimes the cases for dropping out and returning home.

For whatever reason, the bottom line is that they quit and an opportunity at a better life may just have been taken away.

What can make the story even worse is when a scholarship is available, an opportunity for an Indian student to have his tuition and other expenses covered. Colleges offer these and often it is an athletic scholarship involved. A college education is something that a lot of people strive for, they will scratch and save until they have enough money to go and get an education.

If their is any positive side to such a tragic story is that the young student had a desire to want to do to better, they made the choice to try something new, something out of their element. They were trying to do something, they were trying to make a different in their life.

Four years ago, as Katie Grounds arrived in Hanover, New Hampshire, the weather conditions at that time did not exactly welcome the Indian girl from Oklahoma.

It was already night and the continuing rhythm of the rain made the evening seem even more gloomy.

Grounds was definitely out of her comfort zone as she decided to enter Dartmouth College as a freshman. The Navajo, Seminole, and Yuchi girl had decided to attend the prestigious Ivy League School back east, even though she knew it would be thousands of miles away from her family and friends in little Pawnee, Oklahoma.

The academic side wasn’t anything that Grounds would be afraid of.

Grounds had certainly deserved to attend any University she selected, she was a 2002 graduate of Pawnee High School where she received the highest academic honors.

“I had arrived at Dartmouth alone, ill-equipped, and with no direction,” says Grounds. “I had the seemingly overwhelming task of finding my dorm room at night, in the rain, wearing unsuitable clothing, and with four bags that I could not carry by myself. I eventually made it to my room that night, with some muscle, a friendly taxi cab driver, and a campus map. Although I was alone, exhausted, and soaking wet I had accomplished my objective. Indeed this first experience would come to symbolize my journey at Dartmouth over the next four years.”

Grounds would decide to major in Native American studies, but it seemed, especially for her first year at the prestigious eastern school that she was the focus of studies from different people in her new surroundings. “My racial and cultural background, while not tremendously unique in Oklahoma, was a point of curiosity for other students, which usually spurred a bevy of questions,” says Grounds, “at times, this interest served to ostracize me from other students as I was made to feel different and separate from other students. “

Further strain was put on Grounds as she worked a minimum of fifteen hours a week to save money for things such as books and other school supplies. Even though she realized a new environment would take a lot of adjusting and the full support from her parents to take on new challenges, Grounds began to



Dartmouth graduate Katie Grounds with brother Steve Grounds after the 2007 Dartmouth Spring Commencement ceremonies, Grounds is just one of many Native American students that are succeeding in the classroom and choosing to relocate from home and friendly surrounding to embark on new territory academically.

feel overwhelmed, thoughts of quitting, dropping out and heading for home were in her mind. “I was pressured to keep pace with other students in my classes despite my inadequate education, cultural differences, and economic situation. Moreover, I felt estranged from my home and my culture,” says Grounds. “I struggled to make my studies relevant to the Indian community I had left behind in Pawnee, Oklahoma. I battled these issues for my first year at Dartmouth and tried to not feel defeated by these complications.”

Unfortunately, Grounds story is one that many Native Americans have seen or heard of before concerning Native American students that go off to college-new surroundings, new pressures, and a new world can often lead to dropping out of college and going back home to a world of comfort. The report for just finishing high school is far worse.

According to a report eleven years ago by Jon Reyhner that was commissioned by the U.S. Department’s Indian Nations at risk task force, American Indian and Alaska Native students had a dropout rate twice the national average; the highest dropout rate of any United States ethnic or racial group. About three out of every ten Native students drop out of school before graduating from high school both on reservations and in cities. Fast forward to the present and the stat has improved a little. According to Education World, progress has been made. According to figures from the BIA Office of Indian Education Programs, the national dropout rate for Native American youngsters decreased from 17 percent in 1992-1993 to 10 percent in 1999-2000, and even from five years ago, enrollment of American Indian Students grew by 32 percent at tribal colleges compared to 16% growth in higher education institutions overall, this information obtained from the American Indian College Fund.

Perhaps American Indian students are finding the ways of their ancestors and adapting and realizing the

need to survive is just as important in the classroom. Perhaps it’s finding what you feel comfortable with, finding Native American connections in a non-native world, it certainly worked for Grounds, especially after a rough first year. Despite economics, family crisis, and a different world, Katie Grounds became committed to succeeding at Dartmouth. “For the next three years I found internships, jobs, and activities that united my Native community and culture with my academics,” says Grounds. “I became a Native American Studies major and became involved in the Native American community. I was selected as the Undergraduate Advisor of the Native American House and became a leader in my community and facilitated the

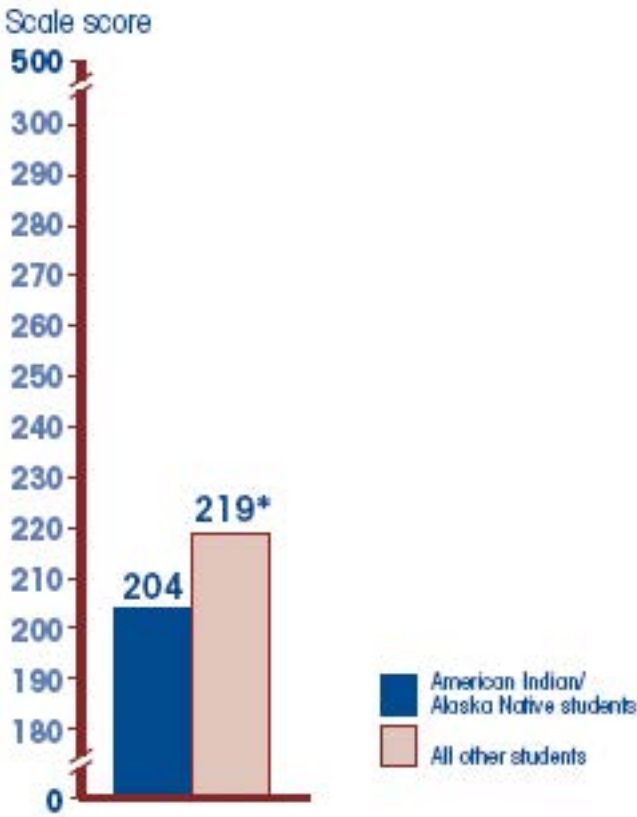
education of other Native American students.”

Last May, she received a degree in Native American studies from the University of Dartmouth, “at home I had an entire community and culture that supported and encouraged me to succeed,” says Grounds, “during this time I recognized what was truly important to me. I had resolved to make my studies relevant to my people so that I could eventually return to my community and give back what was given to me.”

After working a year at Haskell Indian Nations University, Grounds will attend Law School in the fall, and she is no longer apprehensive about venturing out to new worlds as she has applied to several schools

around the nation, even with an offer from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law that would virtually pay for all her education, and it all started five years ago on a 1,500 mile trip from Pawnee to New Hampshire. “I was stronger and smarter than I imagined since arriving at Dartmouth alone, in the rain, and with a burden that was initially overwhelming. I no longer viewed challenges as intimidating or discouraging, but as an opportunity to create change and confront prejudice and intolerance. Through adversity and despite setbacks, I graduated from Dartmouth with much more than a diploma; I had advanced and cultivated my goals while remaining true to myself and my people.”

Figure 2-1. Average reading scale scores, by student group, grade 4: 2005



* Results for American Indian/Alaska Native students were significantly different from those of all other students.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2005 National Indian Education Study.

The Above chart is just one of many from the U.S. Department of Education documenting how Native American students are comparing nationwide to non-Indian students in various academic endeavors, others are also available at the U.S. Department of Education web-site, www.ed.gov

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM
MARCH 28, 2007 COKV TVLVME OKHONAYETV

The MVSKOKE Language Program prepares curriculum and material for MVSKOKE Language Studies to be utilized in the public school classrooms and also for the community initiative. Currently, teachers are in the communities of Wetumka, Cowe-ta, Okemah, and Twin Hills. The distance learning phase of the program's outreach will soon become reality when all of the chartered communities receive installation of Wild Blue. This is the most cost effective way to reach citizens of our sovereign nation—MVSKOKE ETVLVW.

During the month of March, staff members prepared the display case near the Office of the Principal Chief in the Capitol Complex Administration Building, broadcast the first MVSKOKE LANGUAGE lesson on the airwaves of the OPONAKV SAWAHECETV—MCN radio program, and recorded the first MVSKOKE LAN-GUAGE lesson on the airwaves of the NAK HECKUCE--MCN television program. Staff members have also been diligent to the task of the COKV TVLVME—MCN newspaper article.

Eight staff members attended special-ized computer training in Tulsa, Oklahoma, during the week of March 19-23, 2007, which was TASAHCUCE EMETEKTVNKETV (Spring Break). Training will enhance the MVSKOKE Curriculum, MVSKOKE materials that are being developed, and the MVSKOKE Language initiative. Delivery of the MVSKOKE Language must parallel with the technology available for reaching all age levels; accessibility to learning the

MVSKOKE Language will be easier. The most important factor in all of our endeavors is protecting the intellectual property rights and the cultural property rights of our sov-ereign nation, MVSKOKE ETVLVW.

The MVSKOKE Language Program had the opportunity to share a standard lan-guage template with other sovereign nations who may be struggling with the format. It is a basic list of words that may be translated into the native language and recorded into an Interactive DVD to distribute among students of any language level. Technology will keep students interested and will draw family members and friends interested in learning native languages. This informa-tion is to be utilized for native language preservation and revitalization purposes for future generations. It is also meant to be shared with other native language programs in the beginning stages of developing cur-riculum and resource materials for native languages.

We are still searching for three MVS-KOKE Language teachers—special teachers who have the ability to work in the public school classroom setting and who are will-ing to pursue a standard teaching certificate. One of the future goals that we will reach is a MVSKOKE Language Immersion School. The language nest of the MVSKOKE people is rich and needs to develop into a lifelong fluency level. After the approved legislation on March 31, 2007, the staff members will host a MVSKOKE Language Immersion Camp during the week of May 21-25, 2007, at the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Con-

ference Northeast District Campgrounds in Preston, Oklahoma. The purpose is to enhance the development of a dynamic language revitalization effort to teach youth the art of conversing, writing, and reading in MVSKOKE so that they may continue for future generations. Students will take home what they have learned and utilize that language in everyday life with fam-ily and friends. MVSKOKE communities converse daily in the MVSKOKE Lanuage, and immersion style learning ensures that conversing will continue. Youth have the interest and the opportunity to attain and maintain the MVSKOKE Language. Elders prepare youth for tomorrow while we have today. The target grades will be grades 7-12; the criteria for acceptance includes citizenship with the Muscogee Nation, the desire to read/speak/write in the MVS-KOKE Language, and a 200 word essay on the importance of MVSKOKE Language Preservation and Revitalization. We will be announcing temporary openings for adults who wish to work during the camp.

I would like to take a moment to com-mend the staff members of the MVSKOKE Language Program for the teamwork and the professionalism and the camaraderie. We speak MVSKOKE everyday in the of-fice to each other and to our guests who understand MVSKOKE. MVSKOKE is our language of choice—it is our first language. We believe in the mission and purpose of the MVSKOKE Language Program.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRESS REPORT

by: Mary Frye
Mvskoke Language Specialist

On March 10, Norma Marshall and I attended 3rd Annual Connecting to Ameri-can Indian Learners Conference, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK. We took two tenth grade students form We-tumka High School, Mary Rose Harjo and Matt Harley. They were my students during 2005-2006 school year. They presented the Tvklke Svkmorke, fry bread skit in Mvskoke Language. They did an excellent job and we are very proud of them. On March 12, we taped a program with the Mvkoke Language Program staff naming the vegetables and fruit, time to make garden in Tasahcuce in Mvskoke Language. I was on the panel to interview one person for teacher position.

On March 15, we taped a program as I was naming the vegetables and fruit in Mvskoke Language. They will be putting pictures of the fruit and vegetables in the background.

On March 19-23, all the Mvskoke Language Office staff attended Mvskoke Language Program Windows/Office Train-ing, completed 40 hours. Courses were Excel, Power point, Web page and Word. Training instructor was Mrs. Diane Martin at Network Enhance Training.

I have received requests from Mvs-koke citizens from all over the United States and one from Australia needing Mvskoke language translation. Some were for naming children and one teacher in Tulsa wanted to put "READ" on the student's book bags, and translating a Christmas song to Mvskoke.

I am working on making labels in Mvskoke language for furniture, kitchen, bedroom, and clothing items to be used at the Immersion Camp, May 21-25, 2007. We will be using flashcards with pictures of fruit and vegetables labeled in Mvskoke language to teach the students.

Mona "Koko" Lowe
Program Secretary

During the month of March, we had on display, located across from the Sr. Citizen's Gift Shop, different types of seeds for planting, since this is the planting season. We had the following: Corn-Vce, Pump-kin-Cv'se, Turnip-Tvnypse, Lettuce-Lane Papv, Onion-Tafvmpe, Cabbage-Essetapho, Cantaloupe-Fvmecv, Watermelon-Cvstvl, Pepper-Homo, Cucumber-Kaukvmpv, To-mato-Tomato, Carrot-Cufe Enhompstv, Squash-Tvhoyv, Sweet Corn-Vce Cvmpe, adish-Yylunkv Cate, Flower-Pvkpvke. March-Tasahcuce meaning little spring month. Mrs. Sunnie Tiger contacted our office requesting our Mvskoke Language Program to display items for a whole year at the Complex. We change the items in the display case each month referring to what that month may mean to our people.

We have a class of six in our Conver-sational mvskoke Class and we are learning and Practicing speaking, reading, and writ-ing in the mvskoke language, this is very important to each and every one of us as we want to keep the language alive. In the next week we will be planning and practicing to so a commercial speaking to ne another in the Mvskoke language. This commercial will be promoting the Muscogee Tribal College. Our class meets on Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30p.m. Our Mvhayv-In-structor, Ms. Norma Marshall is very fluent in the mvskoke Language and she has many

stories to share with us. I would encourage anyone that is wanting to learn the Language to start taking classes and have fun while you are learning.

Dustin Public Schools;
Phillip Harjo

I am currently teaching grades Pre-K through 8th grade for fifteen-minutes. In that time we go over the alphabets and they traced and started to write on handwriting paper. We also go over the numbers, animals and fruit. We did puzzles on the numbers and colors. I am also teaching the high school grades. They do the basic sentence structure. They are starting to learn about their clan. We talked about wild onions. I showed them what they looked like and how to pick them.

Reed Elementary-
Holdenville; Gracine Hicks

The students had a fill schedule this month. They had popcorn parties, picnics, parent-teacher conference and spring break. Although March has 31 days it cut our Mvskoke class down a little.

The first week we studied action words like letketv, hompetv, liketv, ykv-petv, tasketv, hectv and last but not least nuctv. I told the class we need a good night nuce. So that our EKVLPE can be alert and working. In Mrs. Glasco second grade class we has a grandfather come to our Mvskoke language class. He said he wanted to learn the Mvskoke language because his grand-daughter had encouraged him to be a part of our class.

The last week we reviewed the action words. We played point game, this gave all the students an opportunity to get involved. The student with the most points gets to the Mvhayv how to say EKVLPE worth 5 parkie tickets they love to challenge each other.

I attended the computer class in Tulsa during spring break. We had an excellent teacher and I learned a lot.

Mvskoke Language
Program Staff

Norma Marshall, Manager
Sylvia Baker, Administrative Assistant
Mary Frye, Mvskoke Language Specialist
Millie Colbert, Curriculum Coordinator
Mona Lowe, Program Secretary
Roberta Scott, Office Clerk
Gracine Hicks, Mvskoke Language Teacher
Phillip Harjo, Mvskoke Language Teacher
The Language program is located in the Human Development Building, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447. For more information call (918) 732-7641

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE
MESKE 2007
MAY 21 - 25, 2007
SUMMER IMMERSION CAMP
ESTE MVSKOKVLKE
EMOPONAKV VTEKOSEN
ESAKSUMHUECETVN
EKVNV LIKAN
EHOPO HAYETVN
OHROLOPE CUKPE RAKKO
HOKKOLEN
OHROLOPE KULVPAKAT VPAKEN

MVSKOKEE ALPHABET

A	a	as in far, as afke, Ayo
C	c	che, for tch, as ceme Cesvs, Cate
E	e	as i in pin, ehi, ehe efv, enke eh/eh Ekkeiv
F	f	fe, as in English, feke, fuco
H	h	he, Here, Nesci
I	i	as i pine, as in likes hiye, pihketv, hupiye
K	k	ke, as in English unaspirated (soften sound)
L	l	le,
M	m	me,
N	n	ne,
O	o	as ofv, opv, osten
P	p	pe, as in English
R	r	thle, for hl, as rvro, rakko
S	s	se, as in English unaspirated - svmpv, svty,
T	t	te TAFV, Takklike unaspirated (soften sound)
U	u	as oo in wood, as hoktuce, pume,
V	v	as u in tub, as yvmv, ekvnv.
W	w	weH as in Wakv

VPUEKV-TAME ANIMALS



RAKKO — HORSE



TOLOSE — CHICKEN



FUCO — DUCK



WAKV — COW



EFV — DOG

MVSKOKE CLANS

Mvskoke clans are vital to the struc-ture of the people
Hotvlkvke—wind
Katcvlke—tiger/panther
Ecovlke—deer
Fuswvlke—bird
Nokusvlke—bear
Wotkvlke—raccoon
Ecaswvlke—beaver
Asvnlke—otter
Culvlke—fox
Hvlptvlke—alligator
Vhvlke—potato
Vhvcvmpvlke—sweet potato
Aktayacvlke—snake
Okcvnlke—salt (Alabama)
Rrvvlke—fish
Svpaktvlke—toad
Penwvlke—turkey
Takkocvlke—ant
Heliswvlke—medicine
Lvmhvlke—eagle
Cufvlke—rabbit
Konvlke--skunk
ocvlke—hickory

Mvskoke clan relationships and mvs-koke clan membership are matriarchal. The mvskoke clan system is through the matri-lineal connection—the mother's lineage.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE
CLASS Q & A

Q: OPONAKV VPOKV CEN HAYV HAN TOWIS.

A: VYOPOSKETV CEN HAYV HAN TOWIS.

Q: NAKE(T) CE HOCEFKV TE?

A: _____ CV HOCEFKV(T) OS.

A: _____ CV HOCEFKV TOS.

Q: COKV TVLVME CEN HECKE TOWV?

A: EHI, COKV TVLVME VN HECKE TOS.

A: HEKOS, COKV TVLVME VN HECKEKO TOS.

Q: CE NOC KE LE TE?

A: EHI, CV NOC KE LE TOS.

A: MONKO, CV NOC KE LE KO TOS.

Q: ESTEMVSKOKVLKEEMOPON-AKV KERRECKE TOWV? HO-CECETV? OKHONAYETV? OPONAY-ETV?

A: EHI, ESTE MVSKOKVLKE EM OPONAKV KERRIS. HOCICETV KER-RIS. OKHONAYETV KERRIS. OPONAY-ETV KERRIS.

Q: CVTO KUNAWV(N) OCETS KV?

A: EHI, CVTO KUNAWV(N) OCIS.

MONKO, CVTO KUNAWV(N) OCI SEKO.

Ella Cook

OKEMAHA — Funeral services for Ella Mae Cook were held on April 3, at the her residence with Turner Scott and Scottie Harjo officiating.

She was born on July 2, 1930 in Wetumka, to William Gray and Lucy Scott Gray. She grew up in a family of threebrothers and five sisters.

Ella attended Eufaula Boarding School. She was baptized at Middle Creek #2 in Holdenville, at an early age.

Ella was united in marriage to George Washington Patrick Cook on February 14, 1950, they celebrated 54 years together and were blessed with eight children.

Her hobbies included gardening, sewing, and watching Young and the Restless, her favorite country music singers included George Strait and Vince Gill, listening to her stompdance tapes, and telling stories of when she was a child, growing up.

She also enjoyed spending time at the stompground where she was head lady for 46 years until her passing.

She retired from Wrangler after 20 years of service, but later became a long term care provider before retiring completely.

Ella is proceeded in death by her parents, William Gray and Lucy Scott Gray; husband George Cook; sister Minnie Ward; two grandchildren Jason Cook and Laura Wind; one great grandson Avery Harjo.

Survivors included her eight children: Barbara and Buford Harjo of Bristow, Carol and Charlie Taylor of Okemah, Jessie and Sonny Givens of Okemah, Bean's and Randy Smith of Paden, Georgia Lee Cook of the home, Cindy and Thomas of Clearview, Chebon and Peggy of Okmulgee, Adam and Naomi of Okemah; 20 grandchildren; 33 great grandchildren; a host of relatives; three brothers: Walter "Sonny" Gray of Oregon, Jimmy "Bo" Gray of Salina, and George Gray of Oklahoma City; Five sisters: Nellie Hahn of Washington, Pauline Norris of Oklahoma City, Imogene Gray of Okemah, Lucille West of Spencer, and Mesulta West of Oklahoma City; One uncle Turner Scott; Two aunts Winey Yargee and Lillie Harjo; She also leaves behind her stompground family.

Pallbearers included: Sonny Givens, Chippy Mclemore, Wilson Yargee, Jason Tiger, Alex Yargee, and Steve Yargee.

Honorary Pallbearers included: Turner Scott, Gilbert Scott, Allen Yargee, Jackie Yargee, Kennedy Talamassey, George Poloke, Bobby Yargee.

Interment was at the Cook Family Cemetery

Terry Brennan

SEMINOLE — Funeral services for Terry Lee Brennan were held on February 26 at the First Free Will Baptist Church with Reverends M c D o u - gal, Eddie Gooden, F r a n k M o p p i n and Malcolm Tiger officiating.

Terry Lee was born on August 1, 1957 in Dennison, Tx. to Lawrence and Louise (Tiger) Brennan.

He grew up in Holdenville, graduating in 1977.

He married Dessie Moore on June 29, 1979 and lived in the Seminole area for 30 years.

He served in U.S. Army for four years.

He was a member of Vcinv-Hvtce-Tvlse ceremonial ground and was of the bird clan.

He was preceded in death by his grandmothers: Annie Gooden and Lena (Wolf) Culley, father Lawrence Brennan; brother Tommy Brennan; two sisters: Reba Jayne and Lee Ann Scott.

Survivors included: wife Dessie of

the home; one son Jason and wife Sandra of Stillwater; daughters: Jennifer of Seminole, Tara and Ricky Isaacs of Tecumseh; mother Billie Louise Scott of Shawnee; stepdad Jonny Hawk of Holdenville; stepmother Carolyn Brennan of Sheridan, Wyo; six brothers: Larry and Retta Brennan of Maud, Matt Brennan of Laurel, MT., Gordon and Weda Scott of Shawnee, David and Roberta Scott of Okmulgee, Lee and Katelijne Scott of Meeker, and Ace and Becky Scott of Shawnee; Eight sisters: Sharon and Noe Ryes of Greenville, Tx., Savina and Thomas Miller of Ada, Gwen Scott of Rowlett, Tx., Sandra and Speedy Harley of Okmulgee, Joan and Biagio Randazzo of Rowlett, Tx., Laurie Wood and Mary Legerski of Sheridan, Gail Shaffer of Gillette, Wyo.; four grandchildren: Alexis and Trey Isaacs and Jacob and Yahaira Brennan.

Pallbearers included Noe Reyes, (Mister) Chillaine Reyes, Timothy Moore, Axel Barner, Blaze Randazzo and Biagio Randazzo.

Interment was at the Little Cemetery.

Ernest Cook

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Ernest Dean Cook on February 19, at the Fisher Funeral Home Chapel with Reverends Malcolm Tiger and Alex Lowe officiating.

Ernest was born in Hughes County on June 24, 1945 to Joe and Helen (Harjo) Cook.

He was brought up in the Holdenville area, attended yeager and Holdenville schools, and was a graduate of Holdenville High School.

He married Pat Foster in April of 1971, in Stigler. They made their home in Holdenville.

He worked several years as a construction foreman building Kingsberry homes for Boise Cascade in Holdenville, and several years for Wrangler in Seminole.

He was preceded in death by his parents Joe and Helen Cook.

Survivors included his wife of thirty five years, Pat of the home; two sons: Monte Davis and David Cook both of Holdenville; two brothers: Alan Cook of Tahlequah, Don and Amanda Cook of Wewoka; five sisters: Carolyn Clay and husband Ronnie of Holdenville, Evelyn and Larry Topaum of Ada, Brenda and Jim Teehee of Tahlequah, Jackie Cook of Tahlequah, and Lisa and Don Coffland of Tuba, Ar.; also numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

Interment was at the Holdenville Cemetery

Lewis Johnson

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Lewis Wallace Johnson, Sr. were held on March 12, at the Middle Creek #2 Baptist church with Reverend George Harjochee officiating.

Lewis was born on April 30, 1938 in Holdenville to Dave Walker and Helen Helms.

He remained a Holdenville resident all his life and was a member of Tookparfka Baptist Church.

On March 17, 1960 Wallace married Elouise Beaver in Sulphur.

He worked on the pipeline and was a member of their local union.

His hobbies included his grandchildren, fishing, and watching television.

She was preceded in death by one son, Curtis Johnson, and one sister Bonnie Mae Harjo.

Survivors included his wife, Elouise of the home; children: Wallace Johnson, Jr., Mary Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Connie Harper, Janice Birdcreek, Charlotte Johnson, and Christopher Johnson; Brother, Alfred Walker; Sister Irene Bailey; Sixteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren; and numerous other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers included T. Ray Bighead, JD Smallhead, Terry Smallwood, Sam Beaver, Robin Beaver, and George Franks.

Cheesie McIntosh

BIXBY — Funeral services for Cheesie McIntosh were held

Cheesie was born on June 14, 1913 in Brush Hill to Jobe and Emma (Gray) McIntosh.

Cheesie retired in 1975 after working many years for the Safeway Grocery Distribution Center produce warehouse.

He attended church at the Riverview Baptist Church as well as the Bemo Indian Church and was a longtime member of the

Teamsters Local #523.

His many hobbies included making beautiful beadwork items, fishing, working in his garden and he was a avid domino player.

Survivors included loving wife Estes (Pittman) McIntosh , whom he married on April 15, 1933 in Stidham as well as by one son, Cheesie McIntosh Jr. and wife Jerre of Wagoner, four daughters: Senora Nelson and husband Tommy of Catoosa, Janetta Carr and husband Joe Bob of Bixby, Betty Eash and husband James of Broken Arrow, and Becky Harris and husband Gary of Tulsa; two brothers: Siah McIntosh of Tulsa and George McIntosh and wife Kaniah, of Muskogee; 12 grandchildren; 24 great grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister Salina Lewis; two brothers: Luke and Chillie McIntosh; and three grandsons: Sandy Carr, Cheesie McIntosh III and Michael Dean Rogers.

Casketbearers included Donald Carr Jr., Mark Allen Carr, Jeff McIntosh, Tracy Rogers, Tim Rogers, and Kendal Goodell.

Majorie Ingram

WEWOKA — Funeral services for Marjorie Ann (Scott) Ingram on February 21, at the Yeager Mission Methodist Church with Reverends Allan Mukes and Danny Faulkner officiating.

Marjorie was born on May 9, 1950 in Talihina to Willmott and Marie (Highpine) Scott.

She was brought up in Yeager and Holdenville and attended Yeager schools through the eighth grade, then Holdenville High School, graduating in 1968.

She attended Haskell Indian Nations University, and Rose State College in Midwest City.

She lived in McCloud for many years and for the past several years has lived in Oklahoma City.

Her hobbies included children, teaching Bible study groups, and cooking meat pies.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Willmott and Marie Scott; one son, Montie Ray Scott; two sisters: Mary Scott Shirley and Catherine Scott; and one grandchild Jason.

Survivors included two daughters: O-Han-sica (Tresa) Potts and Gada McGirt, both of Norman; one son, Johnnie Ingram of Lawton, nine grandchildren: Kashina McGirt, Keona McGirt, Kierra McGirt, Phoenix McGirt, Dominique Bear, DeAngelo Brinson, DeKovin Brinson, Alecia Brinson, and Gracie Potts; two sisters: Sue Scott Padilla, and Teresa Scott Frank and husband Roger, all of Oklahoma City; three brothers: Douglas Scott of Holdenville, Willmott Scott Jr., and John Raymond Scott, both of Oklahoma City; numerous nieces, relatives, and many friends.

Pallbearers were David Jimbo Jr., James Jimbo, Bruce Warrington, Greg Smith, Roman Bear, Solon McGirt, and Brett Littledeer.

Honorary palbearers were Phoenix McGirt, Kobe Smith, Gregory Smith, Yatika Warrington, and Tanner Factor.

Interment was at the Wewoka Methodist Church Cemetery.

Martha Nutt

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Martha Nutt were held March 23, at the Schaudt's Glenpool Funeral Service Chapel with

Pastors Jim Littlehead, K e n d a l l Meek, Tony Stick, and grandson Seth McIntosh officiating.

Martha was born on June 23, 1923 to Joe Yarbrough and Hannah (Brown) Yarbrough in Bristow.

She attended Bacone Indian Boarding School in Muskogee.

In 1947 she married Hershel Nutt in Creek County.

Martha retired form the Glenpool Public School system and most recently was a homemaker.

Her hobbies included reading, traveling, teaching the Euchee language to her grandchildren, horseback riding, and exercising by doing swimming aerobics.

She was a member of Living Stone Church and Solid Rock Church in Bixby.

She is preceded in death by both parents: Joe and Hannah (Brown) Yarbrough; husband Hershel Nutt; brother John Wesley; sister Marie Washburn.

Survivors included four daughters: Loucretia McIntosh of Glenpool, Connie Olson (Dave) of Coweta, Cecelia Wittman (George) of Bixby, Barbara Williams of Bixby; on son Joe B. Nutt of Tulsa; nephews Raymond Washburn of Oklahoma City, Bill Record of Tulsa; niece Florence Frank of Glenpool; her best friend Deretha Buckminster of Henryetta; fourteen grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren plus one on the way.

Interment was at the Tiger Cemetery in Bristow.

Susie Simpson

YEAGER — Funeral services for Susie Simpson were held March 8, at the Pecan Grove Methodist Church with Reverend Malcolm Tiger officiating.

Susie was born on January 3, 1925 in Wetumka to James Scott and Nancy Beaver.

She was raised in Wetumka and Hughes county and attended school a Pleasant Ridge School.

Susie moved to Oklahoma City after her marriage to Euna Simpson, they returned to Hughes County in 1974.

She was a member of Alabama Quarsarty Ceremonial Grounds and was recently honored with the title "2006-2007 Senior Miss Alabama Quarsarty Tribal Town."

She later became a member and women's leader at Pecan Grove Methodist Church.

Her hobbies included sewing, quilting, and being with her grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two infant sons; an infant daughter; and one son Richard Simpson.

Survivors included her two sons: Wallace Scott of Holdenville, Edward Simpson of Wewoka; Two sisters: Winey Yargee of Holdenville, Lillie Harjo of Weleetka; One brother, Turner Scott of Wetumka; Fifteen grandchildren; numerous great grandchildren; a host of nieces and nephews, and friends.

Interment was at the Yeager Cemetery.

Susie Stubblefield

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Susie Stubblefield were held on February 23, at the Hutchins-Maples Funeral Home with Reverend Wayne Gemmill officiating.

Susie was born on February 7, 1957 in Bristow to Roy and Evadean Leota (Tucker) Leigh.

Susie was a lifetime resident of Bristow.

In 1971, she married Jimmie Stubblefield in Bristow.

Her hobbies included sewing, fishing, and raising Boston Terriers.

Survivors included her husband, Jimmie of Bristow; two sons: Clint Stubblefield of Bristow and Jimmie Stubblefield, Jr. of Bristow; one daughter, Leodia Stubblefield of Stroud; two sisters: Judy Smallwood of Bristow and Tracy Leigh of Bristow; on brother Jimmie Leigh of Westville.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Roy and Leodia Leigh; two brothers: Willy Leigh and Bill Leigh.

Gratitude

On behalf of Elwood Leo Sulphur, the family would like to thank all those who made monetary contributions.

A special thanks to the Eufaula Indian Community, Creek Nation Social Services and the Light Horse escort, Greg Funeral Home and all the persons who helped during our time of sorrow.

The Sulphur Family

On behalf of Billy Scott, the family would like to thank Creek Nation, Schumacher Funeral Home, Bob McLemore and Patti Fletcher. A special thanks to all of the members of Hillabee Baptist Church for their support and prayers. Also thank you to all the people that came to pay their respects.

The Scott Family

On behalf of Thomas J. Lindsey, the family would like to thank everyone who provided them with prayers, and up lifting word, and support, in their time of sorrow.

Also to express many thanks for all support and help with the grave site.

The family of Thomas Lindsey

A

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MCN Marching Band Tryouts



Haley shines in her first season at NEO



Native American Amateur Boxing Tournament coming to Oklahoma



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June 14

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June 15th

Youth Olympics - Dawn Edwards (918) 732-7859
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Fast Pitch Softball - Dean Williams (918) 732-7791
Golf Tournament - Perry Anderson (918) 732-7827
Gospel Singing - Geebon Gouge (918) 732-7711
Rodeo - Bob Arrington (918) 732- 7650
Concerts - Selina Jayne (918) 758- 1479
Hymn Singing - Mike Coon (918) 279- 3250
Arts & Crafts - Shelly Been (918) 732-7706
Gymnasics Demnostration - Sonya Lytch (918) 732-7702

June 16th - 17th

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Living Legends - Rachel Sumka (918) 732-7604
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Golf Tournament - Perry Anderson (918) 732-7827
Gospel Singing - Geebon Gouge (918) 732-7711
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Concerts - Selina Jayne (918) 758- 1479
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Pow-Wow - Dr. Cosar (918) 758-1480
Arts & Crafts - Ted Isham (918) 756-2324
Health Fair - Newman Frank (918) 758-1479
5-K Run - David Turnbull (918) 758-1479
Farmers Market - David Turnbull (918) 758-1479

Basketball Heaven

• Annual March Madness Tournament once again a success

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

HENRYETTA — Basketball fans around the state are starting to realize that Henryetta, Oklahoma is the place to be at the end of March. Once again, the 4th Annual March Madness All-Indian Tournament proved that, it is indeed, the tournament to be at.

When you think of this tournament, your mind naturally takes you to basketball, basketball and more basketball. And that's fitting because taking a look at the talent that has been on the floor each of the past four years, you have to get excited about the game action. But a closer look at the week's festivities tells you all you need to know about the tournament's main goals.

4 Love of the Game, a non-profit organization who sponsors the tournament, has a motto of "building character through sports." That is why the tournament was kicked off with a College Day complete with representatives from several institutions of higher learning, there to discuss the future with the participants. The entire College Day event was attended by over 200 students. That number was very pleasing to 4 Love of the Game chairman Lucas Taylor.

"You know, that is what this is really all about. Not all of these kids are going to be college or pro basketball players, but all of them should have an opportunity for an education," said Taylor. "I'm just overwhelmed with the amount we had here today. This is easily the highest attendance we've had for the College Day, and it has doubled since last year."

From there it was down to the business of basketball, as the teams hit the floor for pool play competition. The tournament's first day of competition brought out the best in the athletes,



as there were several close games with highlight reel plays. The highlight of the week, however, had to be Friday night's slam-dunk competition. A packed house watched Tahlequah Sequoyah teammates Randy July and Michael Soap duke it out with some gravity-defying, jaw-dropping stuff. Soap looked headed for a win after he put the ball through his legs in mid-air for a jam, but July put the nail in the coffin

with a sensational one-handed tomahawk after bouncing the ball through his legs off the backboard. "That was without a doubt our best dunk contest in the four years we've done this," said Taylor.

When the All-Star activities concluded the single-elimination tournament was under way. At the end of the night on Saturday it was the Hot Tamales of Tahlequah, OK taking the trophy on the girls' side and

The Crew from Oklahoma City taking the Gold Ball in the boys' competition. MVP awards went to Angel Goodrich of the Hot Tamales and Trevon Jimbo of The Crew.

In addition to the competition, scholarships were awarded as part of the Awards Banquet on Sunday. Six happy recipients received their scholarships from 4 Love of the Game representatives and drew praise from the crowd. Also, according to Native

CHAMPS! THREEPEAT

Just as she did in Oklahoma High School Girls' 3A Basketball, Angel Goodrich and company took home the Gold for the third year in a row. This year's rise to the championship was a tough one as the Hot Tamales were pushed to the limit by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and Team Crush, led by KTUL Channel 8's Elite 8 finalist Hayley Knifechief and 2A State Runner-up Savannah Hamilton.

(Visit www.4loveofthegame.org for full tournament results and action photos of the March Madness Tournament)

Haley shines in her first season at NEO

• Freshman guard plays significant role for Region II Champs

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

MIAMI — This time last year, Creek citizen Misty Haley was just finishing play in the annual All-Indian March Madness tournament. This time around is almost the same, but just a little different. She just finished playing in a tournament, but it was the NJCAA National Tournament as a freshman member of the Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Lady Norse basketball squad.

In her first season of collegiate basketball, Misty has been a constant contributor for Coach Jim Rowland's Lady Norse. The squad over achieved based on expectations at the beginning of the season and finished with a remarkable 25-7 record, while capturing the Region II Tournament Championship. That feat qualified the Lady Norse for the NJCAA National Championship tournament in Salina, KS. The tournament draw would be



a difficult one, however, as NEO's first opponent was defending national champion Monroe College from New York. The Lady Norse knew they would have to be on top of their game, and they were. They knocked off Monroe 76-67 to advance to the second round but eventually were ousted by national runner-up Central Arizona.

It had to be a dream come true for Misty to have such great success in her first season at the next level, but to those that were able to see her talent a year ago, it was a foreseeable future. "I was definitely impressed with her talents and knew she

could be successful wherever she went," said B.J. Waggnor, member of 4 Love of the Game organization. Not only did Misty participate in the All-Indian March Madness tournament, but her play earned her a spot on the 4 Love of the Game all-star squad

that traveled to Denver, CO for the Amerind All-West Classic. That tournament, according to Waggnor, really showcased Haley's ability to play basketball against elite competition. "There are so many teams out there (at the All West Classic) from all over the United States," said Waggnor. "She was easily one of our biggest contributors and played very well against some tough competitors. It takes somebody special to do that."

Achieving success on the basketball court is nothing new for Haley. While in high school at Oktaha, she was the Lady Tigers' main threat for four years and helped lead her team to a 2005 state championship. With talent like that it would seem to be a smooth transition to the college game, but in the beginning Misty had to work to settle in. "Everything was really different at first, I mean you prepare for that but you have to experience it," said Haley. "It took some time to get adjusted, but once I did I felt really comfortable and got to where I could just play."

So the future looks bright for this Muscogee citizen, and she is excited about her career. "We had such a blast this year," she said. "Everything was really fun, and I was thankful my first year went so well."

HOT CORNER

Hensci! What's up everybody? Hope everyone's good, well, healthy, happy, all of that. Man it's crazy, you guys wouldn't even believe how much I had going on last month, it was killer! But, I managed to pull it together and of course am here to deliver, yet another stirring rendition of YOUR Hot Corner! That's right it's for you guys!

OK, now where in the world should we kick this party off? There is a lot to talk about, so please give me this opening section to vent a little frustration. Last night was Opening Night for Major League Baseball and my boys the St. Louis Cardinals (ahem, 2006 World Champions) took one on the chin from the New York Mets. You know what though, I'm not going to vent. It's the first game!! And since we eliminated the Mets from the playoffs last year, I'm pretty sure they have thought about us more in the off-season than we thought about them. And to top it off, my buddy calls me after the game with the obligatory "how bout those Cardinals?!" And the only response I could muster was, yeah I see your point but we have 161 more games to try and figure out what went wrong on April 1st!! Anyways, it should be another fun season in the sun. And my hat's off to the Mets, they played a heck of a game. I just hope that in Game 2, when the 'Cards receive their World Series rings, that the Mets aren't blinded by the bling. Count it!

The 4th Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament was once again a resounding success. 40 teams from 5 different states across the U.S. competed in Henryetta in what was one of the better events in the tourney's 4 year existence. I don't know if its just me, but it seems that every year the athletes are a little better, the games are more intense, the crowds are larger and the overall production is top-notch. And it's an All-Indian tournament so there's always a nice line at the concession stands, ayyyy! For my money, nothing was better than Friday night's dunk display. If you want to see some kids get up above the rim, then you should have been parked in a seat on Friday night. What was so interesting and I think this even made it more in-



triguing, was that the two finalists in the dunk contest were Tahlequah Sequoyah teammates! Randy July and Mike Soap, both juniors (I know it's scary), put on an absolute show. One right after another, they were oohing and ahh-ing the crowd all night till I didn't think either one of them would have anything left. That was until Mike crammed one after switching the ball between his legs in mid-air! At this point I'm thinking game over, lights off, go home. I mean this kid just pulled off the same dunk that won an NBA dunk contest!! But Randy July had other plans. Standing at the free throw line with his back to the basket, he bounced the ball between his legs off the glass, cupped it in mid-air and delivered a thunderous tomahawk jam that would have made Dominique Wilkins jealous! So I'm sitting there torn and obviously, so is the audience, because they couldn't decide either, it was insane! They had one more dunk and July ended up winning but I got to give it up to both of them. After last year's "Tilley Renaissance" I didn't think we'd see as good of a dunk-off in '07. Boy was I wrong, this year's contest set the bar high for the future, so it will definitely be fun to keep an eye on.

I also have to show some love to another March Madness participant, Angel Goodrich. Angel picked up KTUL Channel 8's Elite 8 player of the year award this past week and with it a \$1,000 check made out to Tahlequah Sequoyah school from Chevrolet. A lot of our Creek citizens attend Sequoyah schools and have in the past as well, so it was good to see the school and Angel recognized and rewarded.

Well, that about wraps it up for this month. I know there are some great Creek baseball players out there, so I'll have to follow them around as best I can this spring. Keep an eye on Jordan Monday of Glenpool. The big left-hander is a constant on the mound for the Warriors and has already signed with Coffeyville Community College in Kansas. Til next time, everybody try to stay out of trouble, just leave that kind of stuff to me from here on out. We'll see ya next time!

4 Love of the Game to hold Day of Champions Football Camp

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

HENRYETTA — 4 Love of the Game will be hosting their 1st Annual "Day of Champions" Football Camp on July 2, 3, and 4, 2007 for Native American boys and girls in the second through eighth grade. Students who will be freshmen in fall are allowed to participate. The Dewar High School football field has been set at the tentative site for the camp.

Josh Heupel, OU Quaterbacks Coach and Founder of the 14 Foundation, along with his father, Ken, will be coordinating the football camp. The 14 Foundation, a non-profit organization that gives back to the community, is involved in several charities and every year holds a holiday food drive at the final Sooner home game.

The three day camp focuses on teaching the principles of successful leadership

by setting the discipline, then establishing respect, trust and hard work. "Coach (Ken) Heupel said he and Josh really want to reach out to the Native American kids," said Victor Bear, 4 Love of the Game Board Member. "We're very excited about the camp and are glad our organization can make it happen."

One of the highlights of the camp is Fantasy Day, where parents team up with campers for competitions with other teams. It's a fun chance for parents to get involved. "Fantasy Day is a chance for parents and kids to build on their relationships," said Heupel.

Because of limited funded, the cost for the camp is \$75, nonrefundable, in the form of a money order or cashier's check. The fee covers three days of skilled instruction,

lunch, and a camp T-shirt. Also, at the end of the camp, a photograph and autograph session will be held. Campers must provide their own transportation to and from the camp.

"This will be such an amazing experience for our youth, not just for the invaluable experience they will take away from it, but just to see all those top notch athletes there investing time in their development," said Bear

The camp is limited to 125 participants on of a first come, first serve basis. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.4loveofthegame.org or requested by mail. To mail in or request registration forms, contact 4 Love of the Game at: Day of Champions Football Camp, Rt. 3 Box 153, Henryetta, OK 74437.

Creek athlete takes on rowing and academics for the TU Golden Hurricanes

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

TULSA— College Students, usually do not get early morning wake up calls, especially if it's to endure a tough physical regiment to train for a very unique sport. But Faith Lea Weeks Harjo does it everyday with the exception of Sundays.

Harjo is a member of the University of Tulsa Ladies Rowing Team. Usually a sporting organization of this magnitude does not receive the same recognition as basketball, or football, because not too many people are familiar with the sport. But the dedication and practice of rowing are just as demanding as any activity. "We (team) have a six a.m. practice in the gym," says Harjo, who is Pawnee, Choctaw, and Creek. "Where we will run, lift weights, or work in the water tank."

Harjo says the team also works out in a special machine called an 'erg,' but usually the team is out training on the water. "We row on the Verdigris River in Catoosa," says Harjo, "those practices are around three hours." When asked about choosing such a unique sport, Harjo said "rowing just seemed like a neat thing to do. It's not very well known in Oklahoma but I figured it would help me stay in shape and I'd be able to try something new."

The sport of rowing is totally a team concept, Harjo explains that there are over 40 girls that are on the team and Harjo's specific position on the team is

that of a Starboard Rower, a place that has Harjo doing duties on the right side of the boat. Harjo is a freshman and currently competes at the novice level. Like most University sports, scholarships are given to qualified athletes, but Harjo, who had never attempted the sport of rowing before, decided to walk on and totally take on something new. "It takes dedication, passion, and a willingness to learn," says Harjo. "Since I've never done this sport before, I had to learn everything from scratch and I could've quit at any time if it got too hard. Fortunately, I fell in love with this sport so I have an even greater dedication to get better. My passion lies within that dedication: there is something so fascinating about being on the water and rowing my heart out."

The rowing season begins in the fall with a limited amount of scheduled competitions that are called 'regattas'. A break occurs during the winter months and continues up during the spring. "We had a couple of races in the fall which were long distance races," says Harjo. "The spring is when the season really gets started. We mostly do sprints in the boats for the events. After spring training in Tennessee, we'll go to different regattas in New Jersey, Kansas, and Philadelphia and TU is hosting one in the spring as well." So far the team has fared well, the University of Tulsa women's rowing team notched five first-place finishes and 14 top-five marks at the 15th Annual Wichita Frostbite Regatta



that was held in November. The races took place at Riverside Park on the Little Arkansas River in Wichita, Kansas. The Golden Hurricane raced 19 boats down the 1.7 mile course for the final regatta of the fall season. "It was a great day for us," Head Coach Kevin Harris said. "We are getting faster and more confident and it shows in our races today. With Harjo being a part of the Novice team, she is coached

by Julie Domina. Harjo understands the need to relate to each team member and the ingredients that go into making a team function properly. "My team (the novice team) is doing well! It's our first time to ever row so just being able to communicate with each other during practices has helped to accelerate our performance in races," says Harjo. Coach Harris also likes the work of the freshmen and credits

Domina. "We have a lot of talent in the Novice crew and it showed today," Harris said about the Wichita Frostbite Regatta. "Julie Domina does a great job with them and they had some great finishes today."

The choice of sport is not something that was passed through the family line, but the choice of school is, Harjo is following in the footsteps of her Father, Jim, who is an alumnus of the school. Jim is a medical doctor and works as a physician for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation "My Dad graduated from TU and he had a lot of good things to say about the University," says Harjo who also chose the school to be near her family that live in Glenpool, Harjo's Mother is named Beverly and she has three sisters by the name of Joy, Hope, and Patience.

When Harjo is not on the water rowing and going, she is actively involved in representing her American Indian Heritage as well as a Pawnee Princess.

One could almost say Harjo is a Company member of the University of Tulsa, she also cheers on teams in other sport activities. Harjo is a member of the Cheer leading squad for the Football and Women's Basketball teams. When asked if she is the only Native American serving on the squads, Harjo said that "as far as I know, I'm the only full blooded Native American cheerleader" on the squad.

Native American Amateur Boxing Tournament coming to Oklahoma

Native American Sports Council brings National Tournament to Oklahoma for the first time.

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

TULSA — The heritage of the Native American boxing is a long and illustrious one, from its inception at the Indian Boarding Schools to the amateur championships at the golden gloves level and beyond, many Indian elders can recall their time at school either fighting on the team or watching many of the great boxers on the team. Boxing may not be available at the Boarding Schools anymore, but the spirit of Native American Boxing is still alive and well.

On July 5 through the 7th, the National Native American Boxing Championships will take place at the Osage Million Dollar Elm-Casino in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The tournament, which is created in part by the Native American Sports Council (NASC), will be the first time it has been hosted in Oklahoma.

Maurice, (Mo) Smith, who is a member of the NASC board, is excited about bringing the exclusive event to Oklahoma. "We know of the great history of Native American fighters and people in Oklahoma will get a chance to see that."

The Amateur tournament has ages 9 to adult competing. The tournament is also affiliated with USA Boxing which is an organization associated with the USA Olympic trials.

Many of the fighters competing in the National tournament are hoping for a spot on future Olympic boxing teams.

The road to the Olympic Games is rocky and difficult to navigate for most Olympic hopefuls. However, in 1998, the NASC created its Athlete Development and Assistance Program ("ADAP") to support elite and emerging



elite Native American athletes to prepare for National and International competition. Through ADAP, potential Native American Olympic hopefuls are given the necessary assistance and support to reach Olympic competition.

The Native American Sports Council's mission is to promote athletic excellence and wellness within Native American communities through sports programs which combine traditional Native American values with those of the modern Olympics.

The NASC believes that these sports and programs will assist Native communities on their recovery and journeys to wholeness. The sports and wellness programs combine traditional Native American values with those of modern Olympics. History shows that many modern team sports were derived from traditional Native games. History does not show, however, that Native American games taught personal and social values

and traditional ceremonies which were a curriculum for their way of life. That way of life depended on each generation to learn the values and personal qualities, handed down to them such as honesty, courage, respect, personal excellence, gratitude for the guidance of parents, elders, and community leaders, and to serve when called.

Over 700 Native American athletes and coaches, representing 63 Indian communities, have participated in NASC sports development programs, which include training camps in handball, baseball, track and field, cycling, archery, wrestling, and shooting. These programs give Native American athletes an opportunity to participate in multi-sport programs and for the NASC a chance to identify potentially elite athletes for Olympic competition.

The headquarters of the Native American Sports Council is in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

SHOP TALK with GERALD

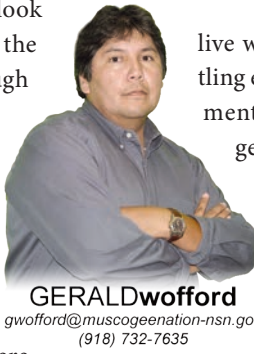
Well, I hope everyone is doing fine out there in Indian land. The sports world just keeps moving' on, with March Madness over with and the promises of spring bring the everlasting hope of baseball as looms over the horizon.

The St. Louis Cardinals look to repeat as World Champions, the cards have a good shot, although the New York Mets should give them a good run for their money. But don't ever count out the Atlanta Braves they always seem to make some noise somewhere.

Speaking of baseball, hats off to my co-host over here on the other page. That's right, Jason Salsman, originally from Eufaula, Liberty Mounds, and parts unknown made his professional sports radio debut on Saturday, March 31 as the game between the Okmulgee Bulldogs and the Roland Rangers was broadcast over KOKL-AM 1240. Salsman is now the official voice of Bulldog baseball. So this month in the afternoon when you're flippin' the burger on the grill or puttin' the eggs in the wild onion , tune in locally and hear the 'Sals' working his magic.

Well, almost when you were starting to believe the University of Oklahoma Women's Basketball team was going to go farther in the tournament, they run into a stop sign. A stop sign by the name of the University of Mississippi. The rebels played great defense and just kept swarming on the Sooners. But in spite of a season that was short of a National Championship, it was still a great run, especially for freshmen Jenna Plumley. Plumley established herself as a starter and made important plays down the stretch for the Sooners. Next year when the season starts teams will look to added options that the Sooners will have, one in Jenna Plumley.

The March Madness Tournament was a huge success, local fans were treated to great Indian high school basketball here in Oklahoma. Not only great bas-



GERALD WOFFORD
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ketball, but great slam dunks in the slam dunk contest and 3-point contest as well. The All-Star game also proved thrilling as 'the best of the best' was selected and will compete in a National Tournament in Denver later this month.

Lord knows most of us can't live without our professional wrestling either, so it was extra entertaining to watch Vince Macmahon get his melon shaved by none other than Donald Trump at the latest wrestling pay-per-view extravaganza. No, (and really I didn't) watch the event, but I know of people that did tune in to the often questionable 'sport'. Next to the question-'should Pete Rose be elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame?', the next most often asked question is 'Is wrestling real?' A timeless question, one question that comedian Andy Kaufmann probably wished he would have never asked. But if you were to look at it in the technical sense, it just might add up. Are there two oppositions competing-yes, is there a winner?-yes. Will someone be crowned a Champion?-yes.

Just as baseball is winding up, basketball is winding down, but on the professional side, the NBA playoffs will be in full swing next month. One team that won't be there and won't be in the local area anymore is the New Orleans/ Oklahoma City Hornets. The hard-luck NBA team made their temporary home in the Sooner State after being affected by Hurricane Katrina and the after-effects. The Hornets were treated well here, seeing many stellar sell-out crowds like the recent Dallas Mavericks game. The administration of the Hornets often teased with the Oklahoma fans saying they were they may very well stay. But this will be the last year here and with the population of New Orleans dramatically decreasing and the economy not as strong as here, the Hornets should not expect much success going back to New Orleans, at least not like what they had here.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Has the game of baseball failed to reach out to minorities?

GERALD WOFFORD

Speaking of the top professional baseball organization in the United States, and that of course is Major League Baseball. I think the MLB could probably work on its image somewhat and create a more aggressive campaign to reach out to more minorities, especially to Native Americans. We have seen the NBA reach out to reservations before and even NFL players do

the same, but I think baseball which historically has had the longest sports heritage of any professional organization has lagged behind somewhat in reaching out to minorities.

But hopefully we will see the MLB begin to reach out because it is the first professional sport that likes to say it broke the 'color' barrier.

JASON SALSMAN

I was reading somewhere the other day where a couple of guys were arguing that Jackie Robinson would not be happy with the state of baseball today. You folks might remember the African-American Robinson as the Brooklyn Dodger who broke baseball's color barrier. They were saying that Robinson would be dismayed at the lack of color in the game today. But, I don't necessarily believe that it is

something caused by the structure of the league. I believe that minorities have simply taken a more vested interest in other sports. With the emergence of the NBA and the NFL as premier leagues with big revenues, I think baseball has merely been a victim of the times. With baseball, it is now more of an international game. You can't make a kid or fan prefer one sport over another. It is what it is.



MUSCOGEE NATION

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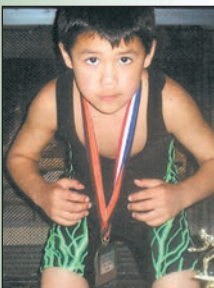
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CAMP CVFECNETV 2007

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program will hold its sixth tobacco education summer camp, "Camp Cvfecnetv," July 9-13, 2007 at Western Hills Resort Ranch in Hulbert, OK and will host 100 young people ages 12-18.

For the past three years, OSU-Okmulgee graphic design students have competed, as part of their class assignment, against each other for producing the camp logo. The two designers who won this year's competition are Preston Toombs, who is a nineteen year old from Okmulgee, and Ashley Saunders, a 23 year old student who has a passion for art and design.

Toombs is most inspired by fellow artists' work that catches his eye. He wants to create art that either rivals or surpasses other graphic artist work, who has a passion for art and design.

Once receiving her associates degree in Graphic Design, Saunders would like to obtain a position as designer with one of the man Design Firms in Tulsa or possible one located out of state. She feels her inspiration comes from nature.

Supreme Court hears arguments from Chief and National Council



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, left, listens to Jeffrey Standing Bear, National Council Attorney, standing, far right, as he presents the National Council's argument before the Supreme Court.

STARLA BUSH/MNN

On April 27, 2007 the Supreme Court heard oral arguments from Chief A.D. Ellis' attorney and the National Council's attorney. The Chief's attorney alleges that the National Council have violated a court order from the Supreme Court and is asking for a writ of prohibition and an indirect contempt citation resulting in civil sanctions. The National Council's attorney denies that National Council actions violate the court order. The Supreme Court has not yet announced whether or not they will hear the case, or, if they choose to hear the case, how the case will be conducted. The arguments can be viewed on the Muscogee Nation webpage at http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/courthearing_042707.htm. DVDs are available for citizens if they would prefer to watch the arguments on DVD. To receive a DVD please contact Joshua Slane at the Communications office at 918 732-7638 or by e-mail at: jslane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

WIC to incorporate system to enhance quality healthcare services

- The SPIRIT computer system is a 13 state association that involves tribal agencies in Oklahoma and New Mexico

by Cynthia Fox
WIC Staff

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program will begin utilizing the computer system SPIRIT (Successful Partners In Reaching Innovative Technology) on May 15, 2007, a project that began five years ago and is a 13 state consortium that involves tribal agencies in Oklahoma and New Mexico.

The goal of this project was to define and reach consensus on a set of functional requirements and business rules for a new system and to identify

a technical solution that all of the agencies could utilize to enhance quality health care services. The SPIRIT system met the requirements under what the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)



Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program

regulations, along with the WIC program mission to avoid any negative impacts on WIC participants. To date, this project had been funded at \$6 million by the USDA

SPIRIT will replace the antiquated automation system currently used to support clinic operations and state level program management. The new paperless system has the capabilities to more effectively track data and generate reports not previously available with the other WIC system. SPIRIT is also more environmentally friendly by omitting the necessity of paper products for participant charts.

This endeavor has involved a heavy time commitment on the part of the WIC staff, particularly during the detailed design process and User Acceptance Testing. The testing has been completed and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program, along with two other tribes, are set to pilot the SPIRIT system this month.

"It's exciting for me because I've

been with the project from the beginning," said Candace Vardell, WIC Program Assistant Director. "There's been a lot of time and hard work put into it, but the end result is an awesome computer system. Muscogee (Creek) Nation, along with the Chickasaw Nation and Zuni Tribe of New Mexico, are the pilot agencies for SPIRIT. Currently, the SPIRIT project is the front runner of all WIC computer systems and is on the cutting edge of technology."

Vardell and Rob Gordon, Vendor Coordinator, have tested the system extensively and are considered to be "super users." "The new SPIRIT computer system will dramatically change the WIC program as we know it," said Gordon. "All of us will become more efficient and be able to serve our participants more effectively."

Veterans Affairs office sets date for grand opening and parade

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — A parade and grand opening ceremony for the new Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs building is scheduled for July 12, 2007.

"The building was built with blood, sweat, and tears of our Muscogee (Creek) veterans," said Ken Davis, Veterans Affairs Director. "This building is an outstanding reminder of all the sacrifices and services of our veterans."

A number of high ranking military personnel, such as Chief

Petty Officer of the Coast Guard Bowen, will be in attendance. Activities will begin at 7:30 a.m. with the assemble of regiments, followed by the National Anthem. Preparation for the Parade will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the Parade to follow at 10 a.m.

The dedication of the building is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at 10:45 a.m. The Veterans Affairs office is requesting all veterans who plan to attend to RSVP at (918) 732-7739 in order to have an accurate count for meals.



From the Office of the Principal Chief

Submitted on May 7, 2007
Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Today is May 6, 2007, summer is rapidly approaching; also approaching is the 33rd Annual Creek Nation Festival & Rodeo. We hope many of our absentee voting citizens are able to return home for a few days in June. We will try and show you all a good time and with many activities for all, young and old. Don't forget that the Living Legends deadline is not far away, May 25, 2007. If you know anyone who has done great things



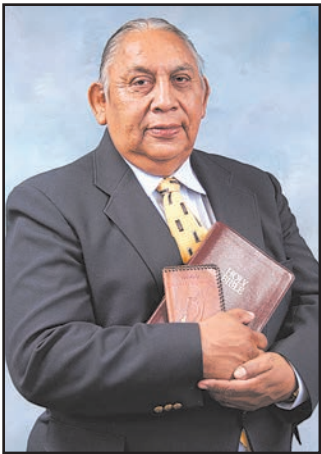
Chief Ellis

for the Muscogee Nation or the Creek people in general, send us their resume and we'll do the rest. Please call my secretary Rachael Sumka for entry forms at (918) 732- 7604. Yesterday, I presented Joe Simpson and the Hanna Indian Community, the keys to a new John Deere Farm Tractor. The money was appropriated by the National Council to improve and maintain the Hanna Community Farm operation. Good Luck to you all because it will take an enormous amount of work. The Creek Nation Supreme Court is in action again and we hope to see an end to the case

of Ellis vs. the National Council. Another equally important case is the one involving the Constitution Convention Committee case. The National Council is again trying to change the plans and the shape of our Tulsa Casino that's already under construction. Please, let's build and finish the planned casino as voted on by everybody last year or the year before. We need to establish an increased revenue source with a finished product and then we can build just about anything we want. In 7 more months a new Council will be seated. Are they going to want to change these plans to suit their taste? Not if I can help it. The use of a veto is a very powerful tool. Until next month, mvto! Have a good day!

Second Opinion

Submitted on April 27, 2007
Hensi!
I hope everyone feels the blessing of our Spring season. The following is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code of Ethics. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code of Ethics § 403 Chap. C Title 12 (a) The mission of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is to sustain a powerful visionary government through a legislative, judicial and executive alliance for the purpose of serving tribal citizens, building Creek communities, advancing cultural and social responsibility, and meeting needs



Second Chief Berryhill

within a contemporary context; while maintaining the respect of the Muscogee people. Likewise, the Office of the Principal Chief encourages professionalism and improved quality of service at all levels of tribal government. (b.) The executive branch promotes understanding and resolution of public issues by providing programs, services, policy studies, conferences and publications. Tribal employees share with the tribal citizenship all of the responsibilities and rights of citizenship in a democratic society. However, the mission and goals of the Nation call every employee to additional dedication and commitment. Certain principles and moral standards must guide the

conduct of tribal employee not merely in preventing wrong, but in pursuing right through a timely and energetic execution of responsibilities. (c) To this end, the members of the tribal workforce, recognizing the critical role of conscience in choosing among courses of action and taking into account the moral responsibility of life, must commit to: (1) Demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness, honesty and fortitude in all public activities in order to inspire confidence and trust in tribal institutions. (2) Serve the tribal citizens and general public is beyond service to oneself. (3) Approach tribal administration and operations duties with a positive attitude and constructively support open communication, creativity, dedication and compassion. (4) Serve in such a way that undue personal gain is not realized from the

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Child care center appreciates help for the Week of the young child

Editor:
During the week of April 23-28, 2007 the Creek Nation Child Development Center in Tulsa celebrated the Week of the Young Child. Our activities included a landscape project, a Parent Appreciation Day, a Community Leaders Luncheon, a Kid's Day, a Book Drive, and a Provider Appreciation Day. The Child Development Center would like to thank the following individuals for helping make our Week of the Young child a success. The Child Development Center Staff, Ryan Hill, Tracy Lewison, The Anderson family, Creek Nation Office of Child Care, The Walling family, the Martinez family, Bill Harbor landscape, Tulsa's Best Topsoil, the Hale family, Morgan Pascale, Keselar Mitchell, Erin Parker, the Toddler Room, the Davis family, Corner Stone Free Will baptist church, Mike David & Mazzio's in Jenks, Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal youth wellness program, Jenny Haumpy, the Mickie family, Extreme landscape, K.L. Blankenship, the Nichols family, Sydney Drake, Wyatt Randolph, the Bush family, McDonald's in Glenpool, St. Francis Hospital, Hospice in Henryetta, Dr. Bewley Chiropractic, McAlister's Deli, Savastano's Pizzeria, the Graham family,

performance of duties. (5) Avoid any interest or activity which is in conflict with the conduct of official duties. (6) Respect and protect any privileged information to which access is gained in the course of official duties. (7) Accept as a personal duty the responsibility to keep up to date on emerging issues and to administer the tribe's business with professional competence, fairness, impartiality, efficiency and effectiveness. (8) Eliminate all forms of fraud

the Patrick family, and the Lowe family. Thank you all for donating your special gifts of time, goods or both. We really appreciate all you have done to make our week a great one. Mvto!
Christine Denny, Tulsa Child Development Center Supervisor

Lady searches for creek citizen

Editor:
I've been searching for some old friends who are members of the Creek tribe. I'm trying to locate the following individuals: Rita Givens (I don't know what her married name would be). We were in junior high together in the Los Angeles, California area around 1957. Her father was a preacher and she had an older brother they called Cadet, an older sister named Marjorie and a younger brother whose name I can't recall. Around about the same time I used to baby sit for a young Creek Indian couple, Mickey and Mary Johnson. At the time they only had one son, Mickey, Jr. (around 1956-57). My name is Yvonne Choate and my maiden name was Lamore. I currently reside on the Ft. Yuma Indian reservation and I can be reached at the following address is P.O. Box 1684, Winterhaven, CA 92283 or at ychoate@tds.net. Yvonne Choate, Winterhaven, CA

and mismanagement of tribal funds and support responsible efforts to correct such fraud, mismanagement or abuse. (9) Support tribal communities, to be good citizens, support good works and charities and bear a fair share of the tribal workload. (10) Encourage new technology, experiments, new ideas and calculated risk-taking.

District Court Filings for March 2007

Civil: Central State Finance v. Suzanna Franklin Central State Finance v. Constance Dan National Quik Cash v. Lorena Smith National Quik Cash v. Suzanna Franklin National Quik Cash v. Ruth Bible Royal Finance v. Rhoda Berryhill Royal Finance v. Thomas July Royal Finance v. Rachael July Alan Snow v. Haley Hamilton Bank of Oklahoma v. Josh Payne Discover Bank (Discover Card) v. Elain Morgan	Foreign Judgment Small Claims Small Claims Small Claims Foreign Judgment Small Claims Small Claims Small Claims Petition Foreign Judgment Foreign Judgment
Divorce: Diana Birdcreek v. Elpidio Gonzalez Vargas	Divorce
Protective Orders:: Crystal Chisholm & Lyla Walker v. Harold Walker Jr.	Ex-Parte
Criminal Felonies: MCN v. Pamela Honeycutt MCN v. Mark Guthrie	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs Paraphernalia Ct. 1: Possession of Controlled Drugs with Intent to Distribute Ct. 1: Possession of Controlled Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs Paraphernalia Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs with Intent to Distribute
MCN v. Louis Shane King	Ct. 1: Possession of Controlled Drugs with Intent to Distribute
MCN v. Leslie Mosby	
MCN v. Michael Gilroy	
Traffic: MCN v. Cary Pruitt III MCN v. Ronald Houston MCN v. Andrew Avant MCN v. Stanford West MCN v. Stanford West MCN v. Stanford West MCN v. Jeffrey Lynch Jr. MCN v. Bobby Hurley MCN v. Bobby Hurley MCN v. Pamela Coon MCN v. Brian Rauch	Expired Tag No Driver's License Expired Tag No Insurance Expired Tag DUS No Insurance DUS No Insurance Driving Under Suspension Driving on Tribal Property w/out Driver's License Expired Tag Failure to carry Insurance Driving Under Suspension Expired Tag Expired Tag DUS Expired Driver's License Expired Tag No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance No Valid Driver's License No Insurance No Insurance No Valid Driver's License Expired Tag
MCN v. Misty Hixenbaugh MCN v. Misty Hixenbaugh MCN v. Misty Hixenbaugh MCN v. Richard Yankle MCN v. Brandon Mark MCN v. Brandon Mark MCN v. Keith Wagoner MCN v. Erick Price MCN v. Erick Price MCN v. Donna Summers MCN v. Michael Harman MCN v. Michael Harman MCN v. Jorge Alvarez-Torres MCN v. Richard Yandle MCN v. Richard Yandle MCN v. Amanda Terry	Expired Tag Failure to carry Insurance Driving Under Suspension Expired Tag Expired Tag DUS Expired Driver's License Expired Tag No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance No Valid Driver's License No Insurance No Insurance No Valid Driver's License Expired Tag

MCN v. Natalie Jones MCN v. Steven Williams MCN v. Chris Goskie MCN v. Justin Burke MCN v. Justin Burke MCN v. Justin Burke MCN v. Mark Hawks MCN v. Amy Hill MCN v. Timothy Stacy II MCN v. James O'Connor Jr. MCN v. Shane Gomez MCN v. Montoya Littlejohn MCN v. Montoya Littlejohn MCN v. John Maynard MCN v. Mark Davis MCN v. Randy Helzer MCN v. Sherri Tolbert MCN v. Mark Nichols MCN v. Holly Stidman MCN v. Randall Smith MCN v. Marc Cordingly MCN v. Shane Osborne MCN v. Shane Osborne MCN v. Raymond Hilton MCN v. Raymond Hilton MCN v. Brock Cooper MCN v. Jesse Wyrick	Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct DUS Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct DUS Expired Tag No Insurance No Insurance Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct DUS Expired Tag Expired Tag DUS No Insurance Disorderly Conduct No Insurance Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct No Insurance DUS No Insurance DUS Disorderly conduct Possession of Firearm on Tribal Property No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance Expired Tag No Valid DL Failure to carry Insurance No Insurance Expired Tag No Insurance DUS Expired Tag DUS Disorderly Conduct DUS Disorderly Conduct DUS No Insurance Disorderly Conduct No Insurance No Insurance No Insurance DUS Expired Tag No Insurance DUS No Valid DL Driving without Required Registration Reckless Driving DUS Trespassing Reckless Driving DUS Expired Tag
MCN v. Jesse Wyrick MCN v. Jesse Wyrick MCN v. Emily King MCN v. Emily King MCN v. Julia Christy MCN v. Julia Christy MCN v. Angel Bustamante MCN v. Angel Bustamante MCN v. Christopher Goforth MCN v. Christopher Goforth MCN v. Christopher Goforth MCN v. Harley Biggs MCN v. Harley Biggs MCN v. Matthew Wooten MCN v. Matthew Wooten MCN v. Kevin Weimer MCN v. Michael Gilroy MCN v. Julia Whelpley MCN v. Julia Whelpley MCN v. Brandon Gray MCN v. Bennett Keller MCN v. Lacie White MCN v. Lacie White MCN v. Rexford Horton MCN v. Jessie Garrison MCN v. Jessie Garrison MCN v. Debra Youngblood MCN v. Deborah Handy	Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct DUS Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct No Insurance Disorderly Conduct No Insurance Disorderly Conduct No Insurance DUS Expired Tag No Insurance Disorderly Conduct DUS Disorderly Conduct No Insurance No Insurance No Insurance DUS Expired Tag No Insurance DUS No Valid DL Driving without Required Registration Reckless Driving DUS Trespassing Reckless Driving DUS Expired Tag
MCN v. Deborah Handy MCN v. Deborah Handy MCN v. Gordon Brooks MCN v. Ahmad Aliya MCN v. Brian Downey MCN v. Thomas Dawson	Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct DUS Expired Tag No Insurance Disorderly Conduct No Insurance No Insurance DUS Expired Tag No Insurance DUS No Valid DL Driving without Required Registration Reckless Driving DUS Expired Tag



Muscogee Nation News
May 2007

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.


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From the desk of the Speaker

HE(N)SCI !!!

This month my column is going to differ from governmental and program news to a retrospect of our annual tribal get together. Tribal members look forward to their annual Festival as a time for fun and reacquainting themselves with friends and family in a cultural and traditional setting.



Tiger

The annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival is rapidly approaching as family, friends and tribal members look forward to this year's edition. Some tribal members schedule their family reunions during the time of the Festival. It is hard to believe our Festival will be celebrating its 33rd birthday this year. Creek Festival 2007 is scheduled for June 9 & 10 and 14 – 17.

I remember past Festivals and especially the first one in 1975. The late Principal Chief Claude Cox saw a need to have something that would allow for tribal members to get together and fellowship. Also, for those who lived out of state it would allow them an opportunity to “come home”. There was a sense of urgency and electricity leading up to the Friday evening events. As with anything “new” there were a few minor glitches. In the end everything worked out and I remember everyone being excited as the events unfolded for the First Annual Creek Festival. Of all the events there is one I have watched with great interest become one of the most popular and watched activity of the Festival and that's the softball tournaments.

In the mid 1970's Indian fast pitch fastball softball was in its prime. The biggest Indian softball tournament was held in Oklahoma City. For two weekends in July since the late 50's Wheeler Park in Oklahoma City became an Indian village when the Men and Women tournaments were held. At no other time except for those two weekends would the OKC Parks and Recreation Department allow for camping at Wheeler Park. Teams from all over Oklahoma and other states would play in that tournament. During the height of the tournament it was nothing to have 100 teams in the Men's bracket and 70 plus teams in the Women's bracket.

Having personally witnessed the popularity of Indian softball, the First Annual Creek Festival All Indian Men and Women softball tournaments was started. I asked for the blessing of Chief Cox and he was supportive having seen for himself the great tournaments being played at Newtown church. The first year the tournament was held at Okmulgee City Park with eight teams being in each bracket. I remember an unexpected glitch was a sudden rain storm coming through around three o'clock on Friday afternoon. After the rain, I was looking at an infield under water and wondering whether or not the field would dry in time for our

first game scheduled for 6:30 that evening. As I was standing behind home plate a car pulled up and a man got out and asked “are you going to play? The man asking was the late Andy Berryhill who in his own right was a great player having played on world class teams. “I played on this field, he said, and I remember it drains really well, I'll be back.” He came back with big empty coffee cans for dumping the excess water off the field. While we were getting the water off the infield the sun came out. After we raked the field and with a light wind and a hot sun doing its job the field was in perfect condition around 6 o'clock, it was time to “play ball”.

From its humble beginnings the tournament has a rich tradition of its own. It became a part of a circuit of Indian softball tournaments. Teams from western Oklahoma contributed to an east versus west rivalries. Later, as the tournament grew it was considered a must tournament for preparing teams for the big tournament in OKC. For a number of years the top finishers in this tournament were usually the top teams in the OKC tournament. It outgrew the Okmulgee City Park and later was played at Nichols Park in Henryetta. In fact, the Festival became so large with added activities, tribal officials made plans to centralize as much as possible everything in Okmulgee, thus, the Creek Nation Omni-plex and later renamed Claude Cox Omni-plex became a reality.

Over the years there have been great players and teams in the tournament. In the men's tournament a team from western Oklahoma made up of the Wetselline brothers, members of the Kiowa-Apache tribe fielded teams who played in world tournaments. Big Joe Wetselline was an outstanding pitcher and hitter. Dink Bemo, a Seminole, was a feared hitter and later coached outstanding teams. Doyle Edge, Caddo, pitched for a number of outstanding teams. Roger Ogle, Cherokee, pitched for the Sapulpa Bucks. Ernie Berryhill pitched for a number of teams. Teams included Concho 49er, Red Race from Clinton, Caddo All-stars and other teams from the Anadarko area, Littleaxe, and etc; Teams from eastern Oklahoma included Sapulpa Bucks a perennial power, Little Kansas, Oklahoma Scramblers, Native Americans from Cherokee country, and etc; Out of state teams include Haskell, Florida Seminoles, Kansas and Oklahoma All Stars, and etc. Whether the teams came from Hectorville or Hatcherville, Greasy or Kenwood, Hollywood or Big Cypress reservations, Los Angeles or Dallas, Nuyaka or Okfuskee, every team played a big part in the success of the tournament.

Softball will always be a big part of our culture as witnessed by the growth of the Creek Festival tournament. We remember the loss of players, umpires, fans and workers who were vital in the success of this event. The popularity of the tournament continues to grow with each generation of players and fans. Just think, this was started with a couple of coffee cans, rakes and the help of a former ball player in Andy Berryhill. Enjoy all Creek Festival 2007 activities!

Thank you for your words of encouragement and until next month MVTO!

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE—THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE APRIL 19, EMERGENCY SESSION.

APRIL 19, EMERGENCY SESSION
ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **THOMAS McINTOSH, EDDIE LaGRONE**, WAS EXCUSED, **ROBERT JONES**, AND **LARRY BIBLE**, WAS EXCUSED.

VETO MESSAGES:
• VETO (12-9-0) TR07-042, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING **SUZAN SHOWN HARJO** TO REPRESENT THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AT THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE HEARINGS ON THE DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED NATIVE AMERICAN HUMAN REMAINS, FUNERARY OBJECTS, SACRED OBJECTS AND OBJECTS OF CULTURAL PATRIMONY ON APRIL 18–20, 2007;

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, AND SAM ALEXANDER**;

• VETO (17-4-0) NCA 07-003, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR LEGAL

COUNSEL,
VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND AND SHIRLENE ADE**;

• VETO (11-11-0) NCA 07-017, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WORSHIP BUILDING FOR NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH IN HENRYETTA., OK;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, PETE BEAVER, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BO JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE**;

• VETO (13-8-0) NCA 07-069, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE REVISION TO THE 2004 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AND REPEALING NCA 06-093 (REVISION OF THE 2002 IHP),

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, RON CLEGHORN, AND SAM ALEXANDER**;

• VETO (12-8-0) NCA 07-084, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION THAT WILL PARTIALLY FUND THE TOBACCO RETAILERS ALLIANCE (T.R.A.) CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE HIRING OF A SPE-

CIALIZED CONSULTANT WHO WILL MONITOR LEGISLATIVE BILLS AND LOBBY ELECTED OFFICIALS AT THE STATE CAPITOL IN OKLAHOMA CITY REGARDING TRIBALLY RELATED TO-BACCO ISSUES;

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, ANTHONY NOTARO, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, RON CLEGHORN AND SAM ALEXANDER**;

• VETO (12-10-0) NCA 07-087, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR ARBEKA CEREMONIAL GROUND;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, TOM PICKERING, BO JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED (21-0-0) TR07-046, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY AND OKLAHOMA CITY AREA INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE NATION'S HEALTH SYSTEM TO RECEIVE MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS.

Urge your representative to support the restoration of Johnson O'Malley!

Subject: **Action Alert** Urge your Representatives to Support JOM Programs

Please write or call your Congressional Members and urge each one to sign on to the letter being circulated to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior. The letter is a request that funding for the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Indian Education Program be restored to the FY 2006 enacted level of \$16.4 million for FY 2008. The JOM program provides Indian students attending public schools with academic-enhancing services, school supplies, financial aid counseling, culturally-based tutoring and more. JOM is the only federal program that allows for student, parent, and community involvement in meeting educational needs that are academically and culturally based.

Below is the letter we are requesting that the Congressional Members sign. Congressional staffer, Kimberly Teehee, from Representative Kildee's office is collecting the names for this letter. She can be reached at (202) 225-3611. If any office has any questions regarding the letter. You can contact your Congressional Members by e-mail and phone: By e-mail: click on this link or type it into your web browser: <http://www.congress.org/congressorg/home/>

By phone:
1. Call the Capitol Hill Main Switchboard: (202) 224-3121 and ask to be connected to your Representatives office.
2. Urge your Representative to sign on to the letter to be sent to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior to restore funding to the Johnson O'Malley Indian education programs. Kim Teehee from Representative Kildee's office is collecting names. She can be reached at (202) 225-3611. If any office has any questions regarding this letter.

a way to halt the bill.

Over the past year, many U.S. congressmen, senators and National Congress of American Indians representatives have met with the Cheyenne-Arapaho and shown support. The majority of Oklahoma's congressional delegation has met with the Cheyenne-Arapaho and offered support as well. According to a November 16th statement issued by the Cheyenne-Arapaho, they had received attention from Coburn, saying that he would review all of their documentation. Flyingman said out of the Oklahoma delegation, Inhoffe was the only person who would not meet with the Cheyenne-Arapaho.

Coburn issued a one-paragraph statement: “It would be premature to comment on the future of the Fort Reno lands pending the outcome of litigation. I will continue to monitor this situation closely and have instructed my staff to maintain the close contact they've had with the Cheyenne-Arapaho leaders and the pertinent federal agencies. I will give this issue my full attention just as I do with all constituent concerns.” Inhoffe's office did not respond.

Currently, Flyingman said that a lot of the money the Cheyenne-Arapaho

3. For tracking purpose, please let the National Congress of American Indians know that you have contacted your Representatives! Please provide a courtesy copy to the NCAI via facsimile at (202) 466-7797. Or by e-mail at jackcliff@ncai.org.

Below is a copy of the letter we are urging Congressional Members to sign on with their support.

The Honorable Norman Dicks, Chairman

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt, Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Interior & Related Agencies

Committee on Appropriations

United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Dicks and Ranking Member Tiahrt:

We are writing to request that the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies restore funding for the Johnson O'Malley (“JOM”) program at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, to the FY 2006 enacted level of \$16.4 million. This program was eliminated in the President's FY2008 budget. This change will help to avert devastating consequences to Indian students that benefit from JOM.

For the past two years, and again for FY 2008, the Administration has requested severe reductions or eliminations in funding for JOM. As justification for eliminating JOM in FY 2008, the Administration states that the program is duplicative of other federal programs. This justification is the same justification provided in the Administration's FY 2006 budget request when it proposed serious reductions to JOM. This subcommittee then determined that the Administration's justification was “unfounded” and restored the funding for JOM in FY 2006.

Tribes have comes from gaming. However, Flyingman and others in the tribes are working hard to diversify their revenues, and the tribes see Fort Reno as a way to not only reinvest in themselves, but also to partner with cities and towns within their tribal jurisdiction.

“Right now, our casinos are more or less supporting our tribe.” Flyingman said. “Casinos aren't going to be around forever, so we're going to have to diversify, go out and create businesses, and bring businesses into our tribe, so we can prepare the future for our children. I think that everyone that lives in our area should benefit from what we benefit from.”

When the history of Oklahoma is

JOM is not duplicative of other educational programs. It is a tragic reality that the standard of living in Indian communities continues to be unmatched by any other group in the U.S., characterized by the highest rates of poverty, morbidity, and substandard housing and education. As a result, Indian students lack may of the opportunities and resources available to non-Indian students. JOM helps to level the field by providing funding targeted specifically for Indian students who attend public schools. JOM provides students with academic-enhancing services and items, including culturally-based tutoring, school supplies, summer school, scholastic testing fees, financial aid counseling, caps and gowns, accelerated college preparation classes, writing competitions, and small but important personal needs, such as eyeglasses. Other programs administered by the federal government, such as the No Child Left Behind Act, do not allow funding for these types of activities and necessary items. Another important distinction is the degree of participation that JOM affords parents and communities. By regulation, the JOM programs are based upon community needs assessments. JOM is the only federal funding program that allows for student, parent, and community involvement in meeting educational needs that academically and culturally based.

We are strongly committed to fiscal responsibility and realize that the Subcommittee is facing significant budget constraints. We believe your support for JOM would be a reasonable priority and go a long way toward serving the education needs of hundreds of thousands of Indians students. We respectfully urge the Subcommittee to restore the JOM funding to the FY 2006 enacted level.

Again, thank you for your support for Indian Country, and we look forward to working with you to meet the educational needs of Indian students.

told, there is not always a focus on forced allotment, when reservations were split up into 160-acre plots with the excess going toward land runs for white settlement. Through the allotment of the Cheyenne-Arapaho reservation, the tribes lost 4.6 million acres of land. Although the tribes were awarded \$15 million for that loss of land in 1965, they have the documentation to show they were never paid for the Fort Reno land. But Flyingman believes that the land will return to them by the end of this year. He is currently working to enlist, among others, Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry to help the Cheyenne-Arapaho to re-obtain Fort Reno during Oklahoma's centennial year.

National Council Supports The Return of Fort Reno to The Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

By Rita Williams

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council passed a Tribal Resolution Saturday, April 28, 2007 during their Quarterly Session, supporting the return of Fort Reno to the Cheyenne/Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma.

Recently, the Cheyenne-Arapaho have made an effort to re-obtain approximately 7,000 acres of land from the federal government to use in its future plan for economic development, which includes a potential industrial park and an Indian World Trade Center.

In 1881, an executive order was issued from the White House that would borrow 10,000 acres from the Cheyenne-Arapaho to use as a part of Fort Reno, near present-day El Reno, Oklahoma, when the military was through with this property, the land was supposed to revert back to the tribes for their use. In 1948, the U.S. military finished using the lands but instead, the U.S. Department of Agriculture took over the land for its Grazinglands Research Laboratory.

This past year at least three different attempts were made in the U.S. Senate to

authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to lease the mineral rights to the oil and gas industry. Senate Bill 1832, which would have authorized this had it passed, was co-written by Sen. James Inhoffe and Tom Coburn, both R-Okla.

Governor Flyingman of the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes estimated that, “a half a billion barrels of oil lie beneath Fort Reno's surface, and the land is currently surrounded by oil wells.” “What is so disturbing about this bill is that they knew that we had a large interest in Fort Reno, and yet what they tried to do was sneak it through as a ‘Midnight Rider.’

A hearing on this bill was scheduled to be held in March 06, of which the tribes were not notified. The Cheyenne-Arapaho actually found out about the hearing over the Internet, according to Flyingman. There was also no response to the letters he sent to the Department of the Interior on this issue. During the Senate's most recent lame-duck session, Flyingman said that another “midnight rider” was attempted and worded as authorization for Interior funding. Through meetings with key officials, the tribes found

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Women's Caucus

By Rita Williams

The First Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit" will be held May 31, 2007. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council Women's Caucus took the lead in sponsoring legislation that provided for this citizens' learning opportunity.

Those who sponsored this event were, Representatives Sylvanna Caldwell, Cherrah Quiett, Paula Wil-

lits, Johnnie Green, Lena Wind and Shirlene Ade. The diabetes program staff worked closely with the Women's Caucus to plan this event.

Members of the planning committee are Women's Caucus members, Cherrah Quiett, Sylvanna Caldwell, Johnnie Green, and Co-Chair, Paula Willits. Diabetes Program Staff, Johnnie Brasuell, Co-Chair, Gloria Moore, Sharon Iverson and Scott Robison.

President Joe Garcia guest speaker at organization's meeting

by Rita Williams

TULSA—The United Indian Nations of Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas Organization held their meeting at the Southern Hills, Marriott Hotel on April 16th.

President Joe Garcia spoke briefly to tribal leaders concerning Tax Exempt Funds, Pension Fix, but his message was fixed on Spirituality.

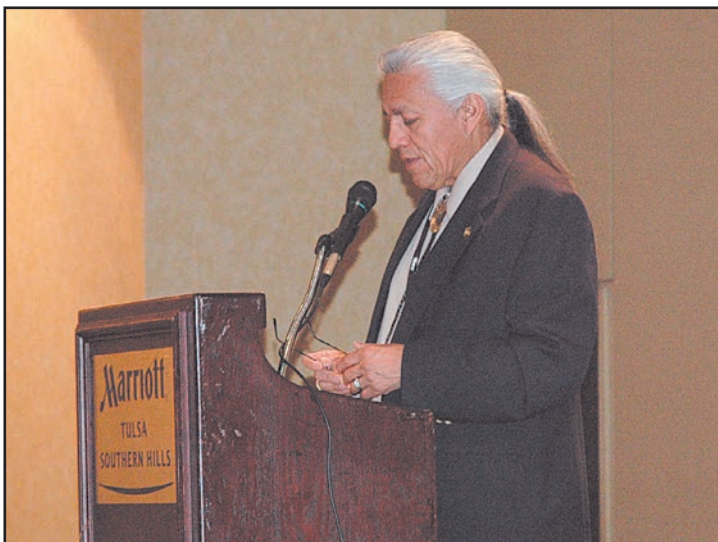
Garcia stated that tax exempt funding for homes is something tribes need to look at, other than block grants to build homes. Need to look at other ways to do business to build more homes for families. The flexibility that NAHASDA gave us was to do something like this.

Pension Fix- NCAI works with the Senate and the House to promote S792. As economic development grows in Indian country we are also being attacked by such things, as labor, taxes, pension plans, ulterior motives to cutback our success and one is gaming. In 1987, IGRA was passed, the feeling then was to give the Indians gaming and they may do okay, but they never realized how we would move for this and how successful we were going to make it. It's a success at this point, so there's the thought out there that "we didn't know they would be this successful." We better start pulling some of things they gave us. If there was any laws passed by Congress that ever impacted our economic development, that would be an infringement on Sovereign nations and that's what we should fight for.

If you look at all the bills passed

that's been bad for Indian country one of the worst is the environmental issues (Inhoffe's Transportation Bill and the attached Midnight Rider) here in Okla-

and our spiritual power. What I ask for, is for all of you to continue in a spiritual sense. I think there needed to be a revival of spirituality because that's who we are as



homa. It just doesn't impact Oklahoma, but all of Indian country. They tried it in Alaska. There has to be some mountain moving on our part in order to change those kinds of issues. There is a lot of resources out there working against us. We have to comprehensively attack all these issues and that key word is UNITY. When I was asked to come before this delegation, I studied about this organization and its been around since 1984. The way we were able to accomplish any efforts back then was by unity. The dominant society thinks there is one solution for everything and we know that is not true. We work this by working through our own work group, our political power

Indian people that's who we represent.

Traditional Elders have told us you will see in this country major changes, political changes that impact Indian country. Major changes in education, services and things that the government promised Indian people and will try to back off, don't let that happen, it will happen, but you have to stand up. This won't be successful, why? Because we are still here and we still stand strong. And the united efforts that this organization has revived takes a lot of work, but your energy will be revived by your people.

I wanted to spend more time on the spiritual side and on how we are going to be successful from here forth.

That success will come by forums like this, information settings, work groups introducing new ways and techniques new approaches to resolve issues. There is a lot of history in education. How long has the dominant society had education in their history. More than 300 years. How about Indian people. We weren't even considered human beings until the case in Nebraska in 1898 with Chief Standing Bear. The education system has been around for hundreds of years, but now we have attorneys, doctors, teachers, engineers, administrators in education, we made a lot of progress despite a lot of things against us. Education is the key to success for our young leaders, its contingent upon us to create a stable relationship for what we are fighting for and if our young ones can be brought along with us to that level then they can be more successful in ensuring those things continue to happen.

I see a spiritual revolution happening and we are calling upon our elders. As Indian people our elders are teaching from the past, our history, our culture and traditions, language, that added strength that we have not used before. Along with the teaching of the dominant society we will continue to survive and our children for the next seven generations and beyond will see the benefits that our ancestors fought for, many died and suffered, but lets not let their death be in vain. We have a new approach now to working with Congress, our State, our Governor. Our political venue is so important

that's why we need to be cognizant that the dominant society does not want us to be successful economically, because economic power also breeds political power. It is something they did not have to worry about a few years ago, but they do now, they have to watch us.

The challenge that I put out to you is, lets take a gaze at where we stand with the UIINO and the National Congress of American Indians and in another quarter see where are. If we are solid than we were before and I commit that we will be and our partnership will grow. There are two major issue we will talk about today and we will support these issues. When we do this, then all the other inter-tribal organizations in this country will begin to do that, then all the strength and power so great and unthinkable will happen. How strong we will be.

We can't forget about all the issues that face us, education, health care, drug and meth abuse. We have to find the solution of the root cause not just the symptoms. We are heading in that direction, but we can't give up. We have to be more resourceful, we have to ask for help, but we don't know everything. Everything we know comes from experience. I commit to moving this partnership. Let the power of our people grow. Lets continue to be involved in the political arena, locally, state and nationally, so one day we can say, we have Indians in Congress, one from each tribe. We can create this, no one else will do this, if we stand together we can have these things.

Hickory Ceremonial Ground Members/Poarch Creek Indians Meetings

By Rita Williams

In March, 2007, the Poarch Creek delegation traveled to Okmulgee for a one day meeting. The morning agenda included a tour of the Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground located south of Henryetta. They also toured the Creek Council House in downtown Okmulgee.

The delegation met with the Hickory Ceremonial Ground, Micco George Thompson and their members. Poarch Creek Chairman, Buford Rolland gave an update of the development of the Hickory Ground site in Wetumpka, Alabama. This included an existing temporary casino, a high-rise parking facility, riverbank stabilization construction, and plans for the development of a casino/hotel and cultural/educational facility.

The Hickory Ground representatives discussed the importance of their traditional values and customs and stressed very strongly that the Sacred site should not be disturbed, burial remains must not be disturbed and that proper consultation was not conducted.

"The proposed site is the location of the ancient prehistoric and historic

capital for the National Council of the Creek Confederacy. This site was placed

the historic property and have an adverse affect in violation of the National Historic Preservation Act. Violations in Federal law have been cited in review and analysis of available documents."

On April 13, 2007 Representative Bill Fife traveled with Micco Thompson and members to Montgomery, Alabama to discuss the Wetumpka development. According to Fife, the short meeting did not allow sufficient time to discuss the majority of issues concerning the development. The agenda was structured around discussion of "Re-interment" and "Ceremonial Grounds Preservation/Site Development. Preservation of the Ceremonial location was discussed and a follow-up trip to Wetumpka was scheduled by Micco Thompson to supervise and observe the recovery of this site to its natural condition as before construction began.

The delegation traveled to Wetumpka, Alabama, to review and discuss the Hickory Ground site with Archeologist, Dr. John Cottier and Dr. Craig Shel-



Hickory Ceremonial Ground, Micco George Thompson and members meet with Poarch Creek Indians. Also in attendance was the Muskogee (Creek) National Council. photo by Rita Williams

Creek town known as Ocheopofau or Hickory Ground," said Okfuskee District Representative Bill Fife. "It was the last

on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1980. Any construction on the site would alter the characteristics of



Micco George Thompson presented ball sticks to Chairman, Buford Rolland. photo by Rita Williams

ton. "The river bank stabilization project was nearly complete and some excavation to the site had been conducted since the delegation visited the site last year." Said Representative Fife.

It was discussed that the two groups continue dialogue and meet at least once a month until agreement can be reached.

National Council representatives oppose Eisenhower Parkway extension

By Rita Williams:

MACON, Ga. — Representatives from the Muskogee (Creek) Nation traveled to Macon, Georgia in April in opposition to two of the 12 routes being considered for the Eisenhower Extension. The routes both cross the Tribe's Traditional Cultural Property. This area is recognized by the Federal government as the cradle of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation.

The routes chosen would build a bridge that would cut through Muskogee Traditional Cultural Property called the Ocmulgee Old Fields. The Ocmulgee

Old Fields sit between the Ocmulgee National Monument and the Lamar Mounds. The Old Fields are a major part of Muskogee history because in 1805 the Muskogee people signed their last treaty in Georgia. This treaty stripped the tribe of almost all their land with the exception of the Ocmulgee Old Fields. They refused to give this land over. In the end, with the forced removal from Georgia, the Old Fields were lost.

The proposed Eisenhower project, stalled for several decades, and was to reduce traffic on congested roads

crossing the Ocmulgee River. The goal is not only to speed travel across town but reduce backups in areas such as the interstate 16 Spring Street exit. But several proposed routes could damage wetlands recognized as the cradle of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation and reduce chances for expanding the Ocmulgee National Monument. The park preserves prehistoric mounds as well as the history of the Creeks.

Muskogee District Representative Eddie LaGrone and Alan Cook, Council Consultant met with representatives from the National Parks Conservation Association, Archaeological Conservancy, Georgia Dept. Of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration to voice concerns and

gather information about the proposed Eisenhower Parkway Extension.

According to Representative LaGrone he believed the meeting had a better outcome for them because they were able to question each official from each agency and found that the agencies were not easily able to defend the proposed route. "The project has been on hold for years because of opposition from other entities than the tribe. There are numerous local groups that opposed to the Eisenhower Parkway Extension for the preservation of a timeless treasure. The Old Fields have been a tourist draw for many years."

"Road builders want to build roads, said Cook, they don't really have the best understanding of the impact on

the resources that have different kinds of values now and in the future. Being able to protect the historic places that define history and preserve that for future Muskogee historians and Muskogee archaeologists.

Both Alan Cook and Representative Eddie LaGrone are familiar with this battle from the beginning. They worked for the tribe when this issue came about in 1992. "The National Council throughout the fifteen years have supported five resolutions in continued reinforcement to oppose the extension and has established a policy of preservation and protection over this area since 1992. And they continue to support that policy into the future, until the threat is gone," said LaGrone.

Hill Vision

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Nonni's presented the Murrow Childrens Home with a grant



By Rita Williams

Creek District Representative Duke Harjo, Executive Director of Murrow Indian Childrens Home, Joan Brown, Muskogee District Representative Pete Beaver, and Nonni's Account Manager, presented a check to the Murrow Indian Children's Home. Representative Duke Harjo who works for Nonni's submitted the Murrow Indian Children's Home as a recipient of the small grant and was chosen. Nonni's presented checks to ten organizations nationwide. Murrow Indian Children's Home is located in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

District Court

continued from A5

MCN v. Lacie White	DUS
MCN v. Rexford Horton	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jessy Garrison	No Insurance
MCN v. Jessy Garrison	DUS
MCN v. Debra Youngblood	No Valid DL
MCN v. Deborah Handy	Driving without Required
Registration	
MCN v. Deborah Handy	Reckless Driving
MCN v. Deborah Handy	DUS
MCN v. Gordon Brooks	Trespassing
MCN v. Ahmad Aliya	Reckless Driving
MCN v. Brian Downey	DUS
MCN v. Thomas Dawson	Expired Tag

District Court Filings for April 2007

Civil:

American Heritage Bank v. Christie Jamison	Foreign Judgement
Star Loans v. Faith Watashe	Small Claims
Carol Lott v. Creek Nation Casino	Petition
Country Investment v. Richard Owens	Foreign Judgment
Courtesy Loans v. Floyd Harjo	Small Claims
Courtesy Loans v. Roberta Scott	Small Claims
Tower Loans v. Roberta Scott	Small Claims
Ace Cash Express v. Sandra Carney	Foreign Judgment
Nicholas McBride v. Kyrsten Branderburg	Petition to Establish Paternity
Shelby Holmes v. Dondi Fox	Petition to Determine Custody

Divorce:

Elizabeth Edwards v. Bobby Edwards	Divorce
------------------------------------	---------

Family Domestic:

TCSS ex rel Carolyn Marry Robinson	Petition
v. Clinnon Robinson	
TCSS ex rel Kyla Stephens	Petition
v. Erick Starr	

Protective Orders::

Marcus & Sierra Cash v. Donna Cash	Ex-Parte
Jason Camila & Dominc Tiger	
v. Daryl Tiger	Ex-Parte
Tammy Harjo v. Samuel Harjo	Ex-Parte

Traffic:

MCN v. Eulatine Snoddy	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jerry Lawrence	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nikolas Sherman	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. James Sellars	Driving w/o Drivers License
MCN v. Darnell Roberts	No Drivers License
MCN v. Darnell Roberts	No Seatbelt
MCN v. Darnell Roberts	No Insurance
MCN v. Tillis Kleyhonna	Improper Tag Display
MCN v. Cody Ousley	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Hazel Smith	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Patsy French	Driving w/o Reg. Registration
MCN v. Sonya Hail	No DL
MCN v. Johnny Stem, II	Poss. of Alcohol of Tribal Property
MCN v. Stefanie Davey	No Insurance
MCN v. Bobby Ferguson	Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
MCN v. Shana Schrimsher	Expired Tag
MCN v. Cal Garbe	Transporting Open Container of Alcohol
MCN v. Chad Heflin	Expired Tag
MCN v. Linda Mabe	Trespassing
MCN v. Alan Chipman	No Insurance
MCN v. Devin Knight	No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Parker	Driving on Tribal Property w/o DL
MCN v. Michael Parker	Driving w/o Reg. Registration
MCN v. Michael Parker	No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Parker	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Michael Parker	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Michael Haley	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Amalia Wilson	No Insurance
MCN v. Amalia Wilson	DUS
MCN v. Damon Haynes	Trespassing
MCN v. Eric Adcock	Trespassing
MCN v. James Travis	Invalid DL
MCN v. Kurt Beatty	Expired Tag
MCN v. Michaela Gonzalea	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Robert Martin	Fraud or False Pretense
MCN v. Richard O'Neal	DUS
MCN v. Marty Luper	Expired Tag
MCN v. Veatrice Johnson	No Insurance
MCN v. Larry Davlin	Poss. of Alcoholic Beverage on Tribal Property
MCN v. Benjamin Castro Salas	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Tomasine Moore	Expired Tag
MCN v. Brandon Hicks	DUS
MCN v. Marion Bullard	Driving on Tribal Property with Drivers Licenses

MCN v. Jessy Garrison	Suspend
MCN v. Jessy Garrison	DUS
MCN v. Rhonda King	No Insurance
MCN v. Richard Whitaker	Expired Tag
MCN v. Richard Whitaker	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jeremy Tecumseh	DUS
MCN v. Cheryl Andrews	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Casey Murphy	DUS
MCN v. Casey Murphy	No Insurance
MCN v. Karry Rowell	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jose Tobias	Expired Tag
MCN v. Michael Michlich	Driving w/o a License
MCN v. Michael Michlich	Driving under Suspension
MCN v. Dalton Medley	No Insurance
	Ct. 1 DUS
	Ct. 2 Driving w/o Insurance
	Ct. 3 Reckless Driving
	Ct. 4 Duties in event of Accident
MCN v. Jerry Trafailer	No Drivers License
MCN v. Levontio Washington	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Kace Williamtel	No Insurance
MCN v. John Tran	Driving w/o Req. Registration
MCN v. Kim Humble	No D.L.
MCN v. Louis Mailhes	Expired Tag

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Bruce McIntosh	Violation of Protective Order
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Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Dalton Medley	Ct. 1 Leaving Scene of Accident
	Ct. 2 Larceny
	Ct. 3 Assault with Dangerous Weapon
MCN v. Sheila Christian	Poss. of Illegal Drugs-

Legal Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
L.B.
Alleged Deprived Child

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: William Robert Brown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4th day of June, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 a.m. for an adjudication hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 28th day of March, 2007.

Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
E.Y., A.Y, M.M & C.M.
Alleged Deprived Children

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Charles Henry
1117 3rd NE
220 NE 13th Street
Ardmore, OK 73401

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

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IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 2nd day of March, 2007.

Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
E.Y., A.Y, M.M & C.M.
Alleged Deprived Children

JUVENILE SUMMONS

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1117 3rd NE
220 NE 13th Street
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Issued this 2nd day of March, 2007.

Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
E.W. and M.P.
Deprived Children

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:
Manuel E. Perez-Gonzalez or unkown father of E.W. and M.P.

YOUR ARE HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 4th day of June, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program implements various programs

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program has implemented many different youth diabetes prevention programs over the past 4 year.

“The Move It! and Prevent Diabetes” Program is a school based prevention program implemented by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Diabetes Program in 12 public schools since 2003 within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Move It! program is 3 years in duration and targets the physical education classroom, prevention education, increasing after school physical activity, and school health policy.

“Hop to Stop Diabetes” After School Jump Rope Program stresses daily exercise and diabetes prevention education. The Muscogee Creek Nation Diabetes program offers an after-school Jump Rope club for all 3rd – 8th grade students at different schools in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation area. This program stresses daily exercise, diabetes prevention education and the practice of jump rope skills in an effort to prevent dia-

betes. The purpose of this club was to give the students another alternative to organized sports to stay active and healthy.

Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. (Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday) Summer Youth Prevention Camp started 3 years ago and has averaged 140 campers each year.

We partner with churches, schools and tribal agencies to offer four day camps that stress the prevention of diabetes.



Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps

OKMULGEE — The Community Diabetes Prevention Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. Program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be offering five different four-day Summer Youth Camps that stresses healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention.

The first three days will include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, and lots of other fun activities. The last day will be a field trip to BIG SPLASH in Tulsa.

These camps will be for any American Indian youth who is 10-15 years of age. Each camp will take the

first 35 youth to sign up and priority will be given to first time campers.

The following is a list of camp locations, dates, and contact information.

H o l d - enville Youth Camp - July 16 – 19. Call for registration at 1-800-219-9458, ext. 456. The deadline for registration is July 6.

H e n - rietta Youth Camp – July 23 - 26. Call for registration at 1-918-756-9911, ext. 255. The deadline for registration is July 13.

Checotah Youth Camp – July 30 – Aug. 2. Call for registration at 1-



DIABETESNEWS Dramatic Increase in Diagnosed Diabetes Found in American Indians and Alaska Natives Under Age 35

As we all know, diabetes has reached epidemic proportions in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. A recent analysis of Indian Health Service system patient data for patients under age 35 years showed that the rate of diagnosed diabetes doubled in just 10 years—rising from 8.5 cases per 1,000 people in 1994 to 17.1 cases per 1,000 in 2004.

In 2004, the prevalence rate among those age 15 years or less was 22.2 per 1,000 people; for those age 25 to 34 years, the prevalence rate was 46.8 per 1,000. Females under age 35 were much more likely to have diabetes than males in every age

group. The highest rate was found in females aged 25 to 34 years (54.5 per 1,000 people). The prevalence rate in this group increased faster each year during the 10-year period than for any other group, rising at 9.1 percent a year over the 10 years.

These trends underscore the importance of focusing on diabetes prevention in younger people and young AI/AN women of child-bearing age. Early onset of diabetes in young people will mean more years of disease and greater risk for costly and disabling complications early in life. Diabetes is also a major cause of birth defects and peri-natal deaths among young women with diabetes.

These problems could be avoided by focusing on prevention among our younger age groups.

The good news is that according to the most recent survey of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians grant programs, many have activities for youth and target young AI/AN women to reduce their risk for diabetes. Many also offer activities related to healthy pregnancies and gestational diabetes. These programs are essential for helping to reverse the growing trend of diabetes. MCN Diabetes management and prevention program has implemented several programs that target our youth.

Type 2 Diabetes in Children Often Comes Without Symptoms

Scientists tell us that Type 2 diabetes has been increasing at an alarming rate—5 times the number diagnosed in the 1960's. Formerly called “adult onset” diabetes, Type 2 diabetes is being diagnosed in children and adolescents, sometimes without symptoms. A recent survey showed that about 20% of Pima Indians diagnosed with type 2 diabetes were 20 years old or younger.

What is commonly seen in the diagnosis of type 2 diabetes in youth? There is usually a family history of diabetes. Secondly, the child is often overweight. The higher the child's weight, the higher the risk for diabetes and other health problems. Doctors also see children with Acanthosis nigricans, a skin discoloration often seen as a darkened area around the neck, armpits and groin. Acanthosis nigricans is associated with obesity. It is caused by excess insulin that is produced when a person eats too many Calories, specifically too many carbohydrates (sugars and starches).

What can parents do to help prevent their child from developing diabetes?

Two good ways are to 1) promote a healthy weight by encouraging smart food choices and 2) urging more physical activity. Limit TV and video game time each day and

get your kids involved in active play. It may mean that Mom and Dad get involved in play too! Your children are more likely to eat healthy foods and increase their exercise if they see you doing the same. Weekends allow more time to join your kids in activities that promote fun and more physical exercise.

Healthy actions that parents might find helpful in preventing type 2 diabetes and other health problems:

- Choosing healthy foods at the grocery store
- Cooking at home more often
- Planning menus ahead with input from all family members

- Limiting trips to fast food restaurants and quick marts
- Turning off the TV, especially at mealtime

When you start setting limits, don't expect your kids to like it very well. To be successful, try to get your spouse in your corner, be willing to make healthy changes yourself and begin changes gradually. To jump-start your plan, switch to beverages without added sugar. Take advantage of good weather and take the family on a 20 minute walk in the evening. If outdoor walking is out, start an indoor activity such as an exercise CD or tape. Use your TV as a vehicle for exercise rather than just sitting.



New Tradition Clinic

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Dr. Lois Beard, DO

Diabetic Footcare Specialty Clinic

Finally! Hope for Diabetes

If you have had Diabetes for 7-10 years, come into our clinic for preventive foot care therapy once a month.

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL: 918.439.9060

Each day is filled with physical activity, education, and fun. A diabetes risk assessment is also done with each camper. This risk assessment includes BMI percentile, acanthosis nigricans, family history, lifestyle questions regarding diet and physical activity.

Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. (Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday) Program at the Eufaula Boarding School. This weekly program includes education and activities in the areas of exercise, nutrition, and diabetes prevention. One of the goals for this after school program is to make exercise and activity a way of life for the students at the Boarding School.

“Nene Hvkoce” Community Walking Program has over 800 community members throughout Creek Nation signed-up to participate in its first year. This is a Pedometer walking program that uses steps, walking time, or walking/running distance for participants to earn points for incentives. Each community is competing against other communities for a 1 mile asphalt walking track to be built in their area. Monthly Nike Incentives are given out at each area's monthly “Fun Day” and an end of the year awards program will include Nike shoes and wind suits for participants who reach high levels of achievement.

The Behavioral Health Program

OKMULGEE — The Behavioral Health Program has made great strides since its inception in 1979 and most recently have made changes in how they deliver behavioral health care. Most notably is the increase in staff. Two years ago, the BHS staff consisted of six clinicians, one psychiatrist and no psychologists.

Today, the staff has more than doubled, with the addition of seven more clinicians, two contracting psychiatrist and two psychologists, of which one-third of the clinicians are dually licensed in Mental Health and Substance Abuse counseling. The tribe has played a huge role in jump starting their success. The funding they have provided has assisted in the development of the Youth Wellness Program and the increase in Behavioral Health staff. Additionally, the tribal funding has allowed them to offer medically supervised detoxification for patients.

Likewise, the Circles of Care (COC)



Back row: Dr. Joe Spears, MD-Psychiatrist; Amy Donaldson, LCSW; Alice Coe, LPC; Dr. Bruce Hodson Ph.D. Licensed Psychologist; Michael Burnside, LPC-LADC. Front row: Dr. Dean Montgomery, Ph.D. licensed Psychologist; William Janssens, LCSW; Rachael Nies, LPC-LADC; Laura Densmore, LPC; Denise Hunter, LPC; Daley Tearl, Clinical Director, Barry Clark, LADC. Not included in picture: Pam Sparks, LADC under supervision and Keith Keplinger, LPC.

Program funded by the SAMSHA grant has benefited the client population. One of the major attributes gained from the COC Program is the community efforts and collaborative approach among Tulsa Indian Heath Center, Cherokee Nation, and Creek Nation. The staff that participates in the COC program was then allowed to research the needs of the community.

Together the community along with the Behavioral Health System has created some new ideas and goals to fill the gaps in services. Some of their ideas are to work jointly with local school systems allowing them to reach

some of the younger population with more convenience to patients and staff. Also, they



Back row: Travis Crandell, Darren DeLaune, Ashleigh Allen. Front row: Thomasine Fife, Carmen Tecumseh, Nedra Thompson, Daley Tearl.


are exploring the options of home based services. Their success just seems to be running over as they have made dramatic changes in the availability of services. They have reduced their waiting list from 4-6 months to less than 30 days. They have always been able to implement substance abuse treatments quicker than other primary mental health needs, but even substance abuse treatments have improved from one group meeting held three nights a week for five weeks to now having two group meetings held two afternoons or nights a week for 12 weeks at the Okmulgee Office. They also intend to implement those groups at each of



Back row: Amber Pilcher, Rose Dearman, Angela Green, Terri Hunter, Gale Smith. Front row: Janet Torix, Georgeann DeLaune.

the Okemah, Sapulpa, and Coweta sites.

Finally, but not least, they have also added a new program called Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), funded by a grant with the OU Health Sciences Center, which has helped in developing the counseling room, training the staff, and providing equipment. This program works with parents and their children ages 2 1/2 to 7 years of age. For more information, contact Daley Tearl, Clinical Director at (918) 758-1910.



HEALTH SUMMIT

“Taking Back Our Families”

JULY 24 - 26, 2007
Chaparral Suites Hotel • Scottsdale, Arizona

The Phoenix Area IHS Health Summit focuses on the impact of amphetamine on our families, community, and environment through the following topics: mental health and behavioral health treatment, collaboration, family services, law enforcement, and youth.

• • • FREE Conference • • •

Register at
www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Phoenix/HealthSummit/
or call 602.364.5155.

NOTICE FROM HOUSING

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is requesting that the following list of applicants contact the Housing Admissions Department by June 15, 2007 in order to continue the processing or updating of previously submitted applications. Failure to contact Housing may result in no further processing of the application and may require you to reapply. You may contact Admission at 918-759-4143 or 1-800-259-5050 ext. 4143.

HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM - Applications Incomplete		
LISTED ARE LAST KNOWN ADDRESSES OF APPLICANTS		
Jonathan Autaubo 600 S. 5th; Apt. #6 Okmulgee, OK 74447	Bryan Eaton 9721 E. 75th; #1025 Tulsa, OK 74133	Terry Jimboy Rt. 3, Box 286 Henryetta, OK 74437
Yolanda Bannister 11236 N. 210 Rd. Henryetta, OK 74437	Robert J. Hicks 16045 Juniper Rd. Henryetta, OK 74437	Sabrina Lewis 1812 W. 57th Pl. Tulsa, OK 74107
Bella Buckley 1709 Pettee Ave. Oklahoma City, OK 73108	Angela Hoots 1315 Tenkeller Ln. Norman, OK 73071	Mary Wauneka 13216 N. 210 Rd. Bixby, OK 74008
Joann Checotah 13120 E. 30th St. Tulsa, OK 74134	Katrina Jared 13855 S. 292nd E. Ave. Coweta, OK 74429	



Dan Fazzini, owner of Green Country Capital Investments, hands Geri Berryhill, Manager of Housing Development, the deeds to three properties donated by his company. The properties are located in the towns of Okmulgee, Henryetta, and Dewar and will be used to build new construction homes. The donated lots will help speed the process in which three future home owners will acquire their homes in these areas. Housing would like to thank Mr. Fazzini for his generosity.

TWO SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP GET YOUR COOLING SYSTEM READY FOR SUMMER

REPLACING THE FILTER

The key to keeping your unit operating efficiently is to keep the air filter clean. Your filter may require replacement every 1 to 3 months. Filters are inexpensive and easy to replace, so check your filter monthly during the cooling seasons.

To replace the filter, lift or swing open the blower door. On counter flow models, the door is located on top of the unit. Simply slide the filter out of its channel and replace with a new one. Check for dirt on or around the blower, and vacuum if necessary.


OUTDOOR COOLING UNIT

Make sure that grass, leaves, dirt, etc. do not obstruct the outdoor coil of the cooling unit. You can clean the coil fins by flushing them with a water hose. To avoid electrical shock hazard, turn off the power to the unit before flushing. Avoid flattening or bending the coil fins, as this will harm unit efficiency.


HEALTH TIP

ELECTROSTATIC FILTERS


You may want to use an electrostatic air filter in your unit to help breathe cleaner air. This type of filter can be up to 30 times more effective than the ordinary fiberglass filter. The electrostatic filter costs around \$20 per filter, but is reusable. Electrostatic air filters use an electrostatic charge to trap more dust, smoke and pollen particles that act as irritants in your home. For allergy sufferers, this type of filter is an effective, affordable alternative to electronic air cleaners.



Filters are easy to replace, so check them monthly during the heating and cooling seasons.



A dirty condenser coil can increase energy usage by 10% to 20%.



Be sure to shut off power to unit before flushing to avoid electrical shock hazard.

Upcoming Events for May and June

Many Springs Homecoming Reunion

HOLDENVILLE—Many Springs Baptist Church in Holdenville, Oklahoma is holding their Homecoming A Reunion Celebration. Activities will begin on May 25, 26, and 27, 2007. This year's celebration will include the Cornell Family Reunion. All descendents of Willie Cornell are invited to come and participate in the Homecoming Celebration. Activities will begin on Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. with a meal of sandwiches and finger foods and a Registration- Reception followed by an open-microphone session for storytelling and singing. Saturday morning will start with a breakfast at 7:30 a.m. During the day there will be photo displays, sharing of old pictures, a volleyball tournament, a horseshoe tournament, a scavenger hunt and other activities for all ages. Please bring your old photographs to share. Saturday evening we will have a dinner followed by a gospel

singing concert. On Sunday morning during the church service, former pastors will be recognized. Activities will end with a pot luck dinner at noon. For more information, contact Leona Brooks at (405) 379-7264; Paula Willits at 918-445-1155; or visit our website <http://ManySpring-sHomecoming.com>.

Smith Family Reunion

LAMAR—The Smith family would like to announce their family reunion, Sunday May 27, 2007 at 9 am in Lamar, OK at Billy Ray Smith's Residence. Pot luck! Bring your favorite food, dessert, or side dish. For more information or directions Call (918) 656-3521.

Western swing music society of the Southwest

OKLAHOMA CITY—The western swing music society is very pleased to inform Mr. Melvin Bevenue the he has been selected for induction into the western swing music society of the southwest 2007 Hall of Fame.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Annual Celebration of the week of the Young Child

OKMULGEE – The annual celebration of the Week of the Young Child is sponsored by the National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), is an opportunity for early childhood programs across the country to hold activities to bring awareness to the needs of young children. Week of the Young child is a time to recognize the people, programs and policies that are helping to build better futures for all children. It started in 1971, and it is a time to plan how we as citizens of a tribe, of a community, of a state and a nation will better meet the needs of all young children and their families. The Nation's Child Development Center in Tulsa celebrated with various activities throughout the designated week.

Saturday, April 21, offered a landscape project, thanks to a generous donation the center will be as beautiful outside as well as inside. The center now has new shrubs, a new Dogwood tree and Pear tree, and Impatience in the flower beds at the front entrance. On Monday morning there were two activities held the first, the Okmulgee center had a parade in downtown Okmulgee with participants from each facility.

Monday, April 23, the center held a Community Leaders luncheon Representatives from the community were invited to tour the center visit with the children and staff. Among the list of visitors include Principal Chief Ellis, Della Cherry, Pat Frank, Faith Watashe, DHS Liaison, Karen Smith of Child Care Resource Services, Council Rep Jeff Fife and Speaker George Tiger and Thomasine Fife and Nedra Thompson of the Circles of Care and

Virgil Sanders of Child Care - Okmulgee. Tuesday, April 24, welcomed Parent's Appreciation day parents were treated with coffee, juice and donuts. Parents were treated to chair massages, flowers and lunches to Mazzio's, Salvastano's pizzeria and McAlister deli. Wednesday, April 25, Special events were planned for the children but due to inclement weather the activities were held indoors, face painting and picnic lunches were provided and before naptime the staff pitched tents for the children to take their naps in. Thursday, April 26, The CDCT held a book drive for the durations of the week with success. Each classroom had drop-off boxes in place. The center received donations of 379 books.

This is the fifth year for Muscogee (Creek) Nation to sponsor the parade. This year's theme for the "Week of the Young Child 2007 is building Better Futures for All Children. Barbara O'Neal of the Okmulgee Head Start wishes to thank Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Mr. Claude Sumner, Mr. Louis Hicks for walking and supporting us along the with the other day care center and the communities: Okmulgee Police department, Okmulgee Fire department, Okmulgee County Health department and the Okmulgee High School Drum team.

On behalf of the Child Development Center in Tulsa Christine Denny and staff would like to thank all the parents, public, volunteers and all individuals with their donations that made the week a success. Parent participation is up 80% from last year

The Celebration will take place on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the 19th, 20th, 21st, of July at the "Express Event Center" at 8512 NW Expressway in Oklahoma City, OK.

The celebration will begin Thursday afternoon and continue into the evening with Jam Sessions and Dancing. The Induction Ceremonies and Awards "presentation will commence at 1:00 p.m. Saturday afternoon. Inductee and their spouse and/or one guest only, will be admitted free to events. Music and dancing will continue after the awards ceremonies.

MCN 4-H Summer Camp

OKMULGEE—Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H Program announces the Creek Nation 4-H Summer Camp to be held for three days and two nights on June 11-12 at the OSU-Okmulgee campus.

The Camp will consist of programs on Archery, robotics, water rocketry, stickball, budgeting and Wildlife Habitat.

The camp is open to all Oklahoma 4-H members at a cost of \$65 and is free to the first 50 Creek youth to apply, ages 13-19 Contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H Coordinator, Rick Clovis, at 1-800-482-1979 extension 7628.

Salvation Army 5K Walk-A-Thon

OKMULGEE—Salvation Army 5k walk a thon, Saturday, June 2,2007 Okmulgee Municipal Park Track, YMCA Park Lot. Registration at 8:30 a.m. Start time at 9 a.m. Registration will be \$10 for pre-registration and \$15 on the on the day of the walk. Volunteers needed! Call: 2nd Chiefs Alfred Berryhill, ext. 7619 or The Salvation Army at (918) 756-9224. Benefit to help send kids to Camp.

Chilocco Indian School Reunion

ALBUQUERQUE, NM—The 2007 Chilocco Reunion will be held in Albuquerque at the Marriott Hotel 2101 Louisiana Blvd, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110. For more information contact: Jim Baker, (405) 330-9236

College of the Muscogee Nation students reconized for achievements

OKMULGEE — Ramona Mason is chair of Board of Regions and would like to recognize some of the students at the College of the Muscogee Nation. “Some people say why do we need a Tribal College when we have OSU in Okmulgee, and many colleges in Oklahoma. But we’ve learned of all the Indian students that have enrolled in college only two percent graduate. So we’ve concluded that theirs something missing at the other colleges that our students need to finish. The College of the Muscogee Nation want the people that visit the College of the Muscogee Nation to see Muscogee (Creek) things like the logo and want to hear people using the language, so that when the students come in they feel welcome. Because their parents or grand parents have probably taught the language.” Says Mason. “The three being recognized are exemplary and they are what make it worth wild, after all the hours the staff puts in, and the Board of Regions put in. When we see students like these it makes it worth wild. The students work full time, they go to school full time, they have families, they have children, but their here and their excited. And We are very proud of them.” says Mason.

Leslie Powell graduated from OSU Okmulgee with an Associates Degree in Business. Powell attended OSU for two years to obtain her degree and plans to further her education in the fall at NSU located in Broken

Arrow. Powell will also graduate in the fall from the College of the Muscogee Nation. Powell is married and has four children and will be the first out



of her brothers and sisters of seven to graduate college. “ I would like to thank the college of the Muscogee Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, OSU



Okmulgee, and anyone else who had a part in helping me get where I am today.” says Powell.

Tania Walker attends College of

the Muscogee Nation for Tribal services. Walker is in the International honor Society for the two year college. One of the requirements is to have a 3.5 GPA. Walker is an officer in the Honor Society and is vice President. Walker is married and has two children who have supported her the whole way. Walker would like to thank everyone who has a part in helping her while she attends school.

Michael Sloan attends college of the Muscogee Nation for Tribal Services and is also a member of the international Honor Society. “ I like the classes because they are small, and you always

have one on one time so you never fall behind.” says Sloan. Sloan would like to

thank everyone like: his wife Tamera and his daughter Shayleigh who have supported him threw school and work. He would also like to thank both colleges and Creek Nation. While attending College Sloan also works at Muscogee Creek Nation Casino as a security Officer.



When I Grow Up

Robert Bible, Regent for the College of the Muscogee Nation

My last article for the tribal newspaper was preparing your student for college. After you have accomplished this, your student needs to decide which profession they may want to pursue. Like many of us when we started college, we thought we knew what we wanted to do, but somewhere along the way we changed our minds and academic paths. It is very important for our students to explore as many professions as possible to help them decide which academic pathway to pursue.

Fortunately, our tribe has made it a top priority to educate our people and make college more accessible for all of us. Without the leadership of Chief Ellis, and the support of our national council, this would not be possible. Obviously there are a lot of people who dedicate many hours toward this dream and make it possible for our people to obtain a college education. The focus of the College of the Muscogee Nation is the same as any other college or university—to produce educated, thinking, socially competent students who can succeed in the work place. These students are our future leaders who will ultimately make decisions that will affect all of us, young and old. So the education that these students receive is paramount to the future of our tribe and state.

The decision of “what to be when I grow up” is perhaps the toughest decision

of all as a new student enrolls in college. It may help to know that in 2006 National Indian Gaming Association officials disclosed that tribal gambling has directly or indirectly created 593,000 jobs. It may also help to know that Oklahoma is has one of the largest gaming industries in the nation.

Therefore, the College of the Muscogee Nation is at the forefront in providing an education to fit this ever-growing job market.

Other degrees at the College of the Muscogee Nation include courses in the Creek language and history. It is imperative that the language and history of our people are taught at a

college level so that our students can make decisions that will properly reflect the past, but also improve our future. While many graduates of the College of the Muscogee Nation will work in the gaming industry, some may become historians, teachers, and college professors of our own institution. According to www.hotjobs.com there will be a shortage of these professionals in as early as 2008. These students will also be directly responsible for continuance of our native language and may someday even serve as politicians who will make important decisions for our tribal government.

Regardless of which profession your student chooses, it is important that you, as the parent, supports their decision and help keep them focused and on track to graduate.



Announcement: Prospective College Students

The Higher Education grants and scholarships application closing dates are June 1 and June 15th. The Post Graduate closing date is July 1 and October 15. Attending college is the best and most important decision a person can make. A college education

is an investment that will pay back for a lifetime. Come and apply with us for the Summer 07, Fall 07 and Spring 08 academic year. Office hours are 8:00 to 5:00 weekdays.

For your convenience, the Higher Education Department offices will open

Saturdays during the month of May through June 9, 2007 from 9:00 to 1:00 to accept applications from tribal citizens who want to attend college for the 07/08 year. Please contact 918-732-7690 for information or log on to our website at [www. Muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://www.Muscogeenation-nsn.gov).

Graduate Luncheon

A graduate luncheon was held at the historic Wacocha Dining Hall on the Broken College campus in Muskogee. This event was sponsored by the Student Support Services program to honor its graduates as well as other Native graduates. This is a federally funded program that has served low-income/first generation students since 1969. Creek, Cherokee, and Choctaw tribes made presentations to its respective tribal



graduates. Mr Louis Hicks, Director of Human Development, Mysoke Nation, was the keynote

speaker. He delivered a motivational speech to the new graduates and it was well received. Presenting awards was Chanenna Davis, Higher Education Scholarship Officer. Present were Jerrie On-The-Hill and Christine Durden of the Higher Education staff to congratulate the students, too.

CREEK NATION HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Higher Education Administration announces the availability of grants and scholarships for college students for the 07/08 academic year. Higher Education Grant Programs are:

Self-Governance (BIA) Scholarship (need based) apply by June 1

Tribal Grant apply by June 1 Post-Graduate Grant Oct. 15 - Summer June 1 Summer Tribal Grants June 1.

Eligibility:

- Be an enrolled member of Muscogee (Creek) Nation and possess a Tribal membership card and a CDIB card

- Must be pursuing a college level education and post graduate (first time degrees)

- Must apply for federal financial aid and campus based aid (Packets may be obtained through the High School counselor or Financial

Aid Office at the college/university.)

- Complete applications must be submitted before the closing dates.

Continuing students who have applications on file and have met all requirements need not apply, but to complete a renewal forms that is currently being mailed. Continuing graduate students need only to send grades, class schedule and a letter of intent before the new term.

Applications requests are now being accepted by writing or may be downloaded from the website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/humandeve/hum_highereduc.htm Listed requirements must be attached to each application. Incomplete applications will be returned. For further information, please contact the Creek Nation Higher Education Department, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or Ph: (918) 732-7690 ext.. 7691 or 7692

SENIOR & COLLEGE GRADUATES

2007

Graduation is finally here! Submit your information for the Muscogee Nation News. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS MAY 28TH 2007

Name: _____ Roll #: _____

School: _____ Clan: _____

Tribal Town: _____

Parents: _____

Grandparents: _____

Awards: _____

Activities: _____

Future Plans: _____

Mail Submissions to
P.O. Box 580,
Okmulgee, Ok. 74447

Email to: Mbible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(please submit in Word Perfect Format)

If you have any questions contact
Mallory Bible at 918-732-7639

Mvskoke Etlwlv Nvckvkv Mvhkv Shvlwecvt

COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION

In partnership with the Oklahoma State University System



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION
P.O. BOX 580 • PHONE: 918-758-1480 • FAX: 918-293-5313 • WEBLINK: <http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov>
We are located on the OSU-Okmulgee campus in the Science & Technology building.

FEATURES

RELIGION - B3

Tribe participates in National Day of Prayer



LIFESTYLES- B4

Students selected by the Tulsa Indian Chamber of Commerce "Students of Excellence Award"



SPOTLIGHT - B5

Yerby strong arms her way to the top



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

May 2007

Native American History Series: Muscogee Confederacy Native American Languages Impact Today

by Judge Patrick E. Moore

Today in classrooms located on the campus of The University of Oklahoma, also at some local public schools and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communities the Mvskoke language is being taught. My father would have said "they are learning to talk Creek." The common languages of the Native American that evolved over eons are often unknown to the general public.

Some Oklahoma residents are aware that the word "Oklahoma" is Choctaw meaning "Land of the Red Man." They also know that Okmulgee, Tulsa, Sapulpa, Muskogee, Checotah, Eufaula, Okemah, Wewoka, Weleetka, and Wewumpka are Muscogee Creek old town names. Scattered throughout the rest of this state and the United States are literally hundreds of states, cities, towns and locations named by native Americans or borrowing a Native American name.

Europeans who arrived in North America did not have words to describe the very different animals and plants they encountered so they used Native American words when naming the skunk, terrapin, jaguar, puma, cougar, manatee, barracuda, chipmunk, opossum, raccoon, caribou, moose and believe it or not the chigger. Where would the automobile industry be without the jaguar or cougar and the hunter/ fisherman without the chigger.

Honck, pronounced honk, is the Narraganset word for Canadian Goose. A Canadian Goose does not quack he or she honks and naturally when people began to drive automobiles they used the word honk to describe the sound emitted by their automobile horn. Musicians used to honk their band instruments when they played the brass music popular in nightclubs and speakeasies of the 1920's & 1930's resulting in evolution of the word honky-tonk.

Choctaw, a Muskogean lan-



guage, was used as the trade language in the southeastern United States for thousands of years before the 1830's removal. A Choctaw word oke means both parties agree and today when something is ok or okay it means virtually the same thing.

The Choctaw word okay is truly a international word today, since it is used in German, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Japanese to mean everything is OK.

Native American names were applied to trees and plants and we are all familiar with pecan, persimmon, mahogany, hickory, mangrove, mesquite and yucca.

From the garden come the Native American words, squash, avocado, hominy, maize, tapioca and succotash. The World got potato from the Taino Indians along with the hammock a sleeping device still popular in backyards and on camping trips today. Yaupon is a Catawba word for an evergreen holly.

The Arawakan Indians presented the World with the word tobacco and the Mayan dynasty the word cigar. From the South American Tupi came the word for a fish with razor sharp teeth "Piranha" these South American Natives also named the colorful Toucan bird and capybara. Shark first appeared in the English language around 1550 after sailors heard Native Americans talking of a vicious fish that patrolled the oceans of North America.

Land and its topography are different so the Choctaw provided bayou and savanna came from the Taino Indians. An Algonquian word podunk meaning an isolated neck of land became any remote village or town.

North American weather was also very different. The English word storm just did not seem to fit the violent weather systems that came out of the south Atlantic, but the Carib Indian word Hurricane seemed to fit nicely. A severe winter storm is commonly referred to as a blizzard because David Crockett heard

Native Americans on the frontier use blizzard when referring a snow storm one winter, so in 1834 to describe a very bad winter storm, Crockett called it a blizzard.

Several medicines still have their Native American name, quinine came from the Quechua, curare from the Carib and ipecac from the Tupi Indians.

Several articles of clothing owe their contemporary name to Native Americans. The Algonquian gave us moccasin, the Aleut parka, the Inuit mukluk and from the Araucana or Mapuche of Chile poncho.

The Micmac Indians invented the toboggan, the Inuit called their sled huskies and their small boats kayaks. Canoe is a Carib Indian word and dory is a Mosquito Indian name for a small dugout boat.

From the Algonquian comes the word to describe a war club with a stone or metal blade "Tomahawk," they also gave us the word wampum which was their way of recording important events through the use of woven colored beads in pictographic writing.

Today's politicians would be lost without the Algonquian word for a group meeting called "Caucus." "Mugwump" is a Natick Indian word meaning a independent person and "Powwow" is Algonquian for a meeting of holy men who often danced as part of their ritual.

Native Americans living on reservations referred to the alcohol that was smuggled on to the reservation as bootleg since the illegal drink hidden in a bootleg. Bootleg soon spread nationwide as a term for illegal spirits. The Chinook name for alcohol was hooch and a place that sold hooch normally had other illegal activity going on which resulted in the a type of dance called the hootchyk ootchy.

American English has 2,200 words that originated from Native American languages and are used daily in our conversations and writings.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE — This last month has truly been a time of coming and going. I traveled across the Atlantic to Stuttgart, Germany for the Indianer Inuit: Das Nordamerika Film festival. The film festival featured videos and movies from all over Indian country, from full-length feature to short documentaries. Tantoo Cardinal a well-known actress from Canada appeared in several of the films. She was at the festival to introduce one of her films, Unnatural and Accidental, based on a true story of a series of deaths of Indian women on Vancouver's east side in the 1980's due to alcohol poisoning. The deaths weren't taken seriously because the women lived on skid row, until a common acquaintance was found. He had killed them by pouring alcohol down their throats. The images still disturb me. Did the retelling of the story bring about a healing? Can testimony bring peace? Or did it unnecessarily recreate the destruction?

Years ago I was hired by the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona to write a one-hour drama that would incorporate the healing story of the Gaan, the mountain spirit dancers. I was taken in and told the story and the meaning of the story. There are as many versions as storytellers, though the core elements are the same. I witnessed a beautiful ceremony in which the Gaan appeared from the mountains and danced. In the screenplay the protagonist (lead character) was a teenage Apache boy at Indian school in Phoenix. He got caught up in a gang, began drinking, and started getting into trouble. The family brought him home. A ceremony was done for him. He literally and metaphorically became a part of the story; as he healed he became the boy who was the central character in the traditional story. And as in the traditional story, the Gaan appeared to teach the people in a time when they had forgotten their origins, a time when strange crimes were being committed, a time of unusual weather and natural disasters, when the people had forgotten to take care of each other.

(These times sound awfully familiar, don't they?)

Each draft of the screenplay went to the tribal cultural board. One of the older women objected to a scene that depicted drinking and fighting. The images were disturbing, and thus the images had power to cause disturbance to the viewer. This was not something we need to see, she said. We need positive images for our people. The next meeting she had changed her mind. Her granddaughter read the script and convinced her that the drinking and fighting scene provided an important part of the story, though it was difficult to watch. The scene might help others in trouble see themselves, could act as a warning, and present the challenge faced by the young man. We included a scaled back version of the scene in the final screenplay. (I hear the video is still very popular there, and is copied and passed around the community.)

Since then I have carefully considered the power of images and how they affect us. I used to be a huge fan of all the various CSI and Law and Order shows. The stories are dramatic, well written and each hinges around the solving of a crime. I began to notice that in almost all in the shows the crimes were perpetrated against beautiful young women and children. And the crimes became more and more heinous and creative as the season went on, (just as the crimes we see and hear reported in the newspaper, television, and the Internet these days). The brutal images were haunting and were beginning to instill a fear, a distrust of life in me. I checked every corner and closet in my house before sleeping. I worried about the safety of my family. When I stopped for sleep, those terrible images would play about my mind. I quit watching.

Ratings go up commensurate with

sensationalistic images, which usually involve fast sex, violence and drugs. And with ratings come sponsors who will pay more for their commercials, advertisements for food that isn't really food, for more goofy or violent TV shows, happy drugs, or a myriad of clothes, cars and gadgets that we don't really need. And we get hooked, because nothing is required from us but our complacent, exhausted minds, which are complacent and exhausted because we're eating the food that isn't really food, watching stupid shows, taking all those happy drugs, and working eight or more hours a day

to buy all those things dancing across the television screen. This, I guess, is what they always meant by civilization, or progress.

Still I am opposed to censorship. If you don't like these images, or the turn the story is taking, then turn off the television, make your own stories (even for television!), pull out your paints, your poems, get to work on those ribbon dresses you promised two years ago for your nieces, cook your own dinner and take some to your neighbor. Start visiting each other again. And take the kids with you. You'd be surprised at the gifts we are carrying in this nation. Share them.

Images of Indians, most of them not created by us, have defined us in the world. Germany has a great fascination with Indians. To understand this obsession you have to know about Karl May, a German writer who at the turn of the last century wrote a series of extremely popular Wild West stories inspired by the a stilted, stereotypical novel The Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper. Winnetou, whose adventures are captured in the stories, makes his appearance in the first chapter with these words: "His bronze-coloured face bore the imprint of special nobility." May vividly imagined fantasy Indians and the Wild West. He never met a real Indian. I guess everyone wanted and still wants that "imprint of special nobility". Now there are over 200 Indian clubs in Germany. In these clubs people make authentic costumes, take on Indian names, dress up, dance and live as Indians for the weekend.

Once during a visit to Griefswald, a city on the North Sea, near Poland, I was taken to an "Indian Museum". The first floor was framed images from magazines and books. The second floor was displays of exquisite, perfect Plains Indian beadwork made by Germans. This is why a real native man who looks Plains Indian, has long hair, wears lots of leather with fringes, a few feathers, and can pose stoic, can make a living being Indian in Germany, by making appearances and sharing "culture". Run that by the next high school career day in Okmulgee. We do need ambassadors who can show that real Indians are all kinds of Indians: long, short, funny, sad, male, female, child, old man, skinny, fat, human being....some of us dress up for powwow, some of us dress down for life.

After the last film the organizers, who were some of the most thoughtful and organized organizers I've met on my travels, closed with a ceremony of thank you's and acknowledgements. At the end, an elderly German gentleman who many of us had noticed on the front row of all the screenings jumped up and enthusiastically asked: "What about a thank-you for the audience"? We all smiled and clapped. Later over dinner I heard his story. The old man came to all the Indianer film festivals because when he was in the war, a Lakota man, who was part of the U.S. forces, captured him. That Lakota man took really looked after him and he was convinced that's why he was still alive. He carried around an image of an Indian as a kind soldier.

It's the small kindnesses that will be remembered.

Cultural Activities

21st Annual Red Earth Festival

OKLAHOMA CITY — When the 21st Annual Red Earth Native American Cultural opens at the Cox Convention Center Friday June 1, 2007 in downtown Oklahoma City, more than 1200 American Indian artists and dancers

from throughout North America will gather to celebrate the richness and diversity of their heritage with the world. For three exciting days Oklahoma City will be at the center of Native American art and culture in America.

Through the years Red Earth has matured into one of the most respected visual and performing arts event of its type- setting the standard for many of today's Indian art shows held throughout the nation. At Red

Earth, guests can sample the work of some of beadwork, basketry, jewelry, pottery sculpture, painting, graphics and cultural attire during the juried art show and markets.

The dance competition at Red

Earth is one of rare occasions when dancers from America's Northern and Southern tribes can be seen together in one venue. Red Earth dancers represent the elite of Native American dance, some of the most

gifted and accomplished in the world. The masters, each in their own distinctive tribal dress, exhibit their originality and skills in one of the most prestigious of all native dance competitions.

A grand parade, unlike any other parade in the world, opens the 2007 Red

Earth Festival on Friday morning. The streets of downtown Oklahoma City will vibrate in Native American tribal spirit as representative of more than 100 tribes, in full tribal regalia, make the red earth parade one of America's most unique.

The Red Earth Art Market opens Friday, June 1 at 11 a.m. and the first Grand Entry of dance competitors begins at noon inside the Cox Convention Center Arena. Grand Entries are scheduled at noon and 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and at noon on Sunday. The Red Earth Run, a 5k run and 2 mile fun walk, schedule at 8 am Saturday June 2 on Regatta Park River Trails along the Oklahoma River in downtown Oklahoma City, is open to runners and walkers of all ages and abilities.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.com. For additional information contact Red Earth, Inc at 405-427-5228 or visit www.redearth.org. Red Earth is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Host Art Exhibit

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be hosting the "Art from Indian Territory 2007: The State of Being American Indian" exhibit beginning on May 14 and lasting until June 22, 2007. The art exhibit is sponsored by the American Indian Culture Center and Museum.

The exhibition will be displayed in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capital

Complex main lobby and will be free and open to the public for viewing during normal business hours Monday through Friday. On Friday, May 18 from 4-6 p.m. in the evening, there will be an opening reception.

Several Creek/Seminole/Euchee artists are part of this exhibit: Tom Fields, Richard Ray Whitman, Tony Tiger and Ben Harjo. During the 33rd

Annual Creek Festival on Saturday, June 16, from noon until 4 p.m., the public is invited to attend a reception and view these breathtaking works of art.

The opportunity for this touring exhibition to travel to Okmulgee has been made possible by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief, A. D. Ellis, in conjunction with the Creek Council House Museum..



Jackson Barnett

Manager
Creek Nation
Senior
Services

A Report on another senior outing to Albuquerque, NM

Another senior citizen cultural trip was enjoyed by twenty-four Creek Citizens over the past weekend. This time we traveled to Albuquerque, NM for the annual “Gathering of Nations” Native American Celebration.

We departed Creek Nation at 8 a.m. on Thursday, April 26th. We took both program vans and were joined by the Tulsa Indian Community van with six passengers. We picked up a private automobile with three riders in Henryetta. We proceeded to Okemah where we took on five riders and finally headed toward Oklahoma City and points west.

Our Caravan made our first stop in Elk City where we enjoyed our first meal at the Western Sizzler Restaurant. Making the necessary rest stops along the way, we arrived at our destination, the Sunset Inn at the far east part of Albuquerque approximately seven thirty in the evening, we settled into our rooms then went out for dinner. We returned to our rooms for a much needed rest from ten hours of driving and riding.

Friday morning we left the motel at 8 a.m. for breakfast. After eating we headed east and north to the Sandia Mountain Tramway. I believe some of us were a little apprehensive about riding the tram as not all of us made the ride. I stayed atop the mountain longer than anyone else. I went for a exploration walk on the crest of the mountain and when I finally returned, all of my party had already returned down the mountain. I took the next flight down. About half way down, the phone inside the ride cabin rang. The ride attendant called out my name as my people were either concerned about my safety or were anxious to start on the next phase of our itinerary for that day, Friday. I told the attendant to tell my people that everything was okay and I was fine. I got off the ride all in one piece. We then proceeded north on Highway 25, after making a wrong turn, to Santa Fe.

I myself am not too proud to ask for directions to certain destinations when I know I am a little lost. (Not really lost, just temporarily confused) we reached Santa Fe around 2 p.m. to my surprise, everyone was ready to eat Mexican food. We found what appeared to be an authentic restaurant which didn't take long. We enjoyed a delicious meal. But for some, the chilli sauce was a might hot. We then scattered out to explore the city plaza where many Indian people were showing and selling their items.

After three hours of shopping and sight-seeing, we managed to get out of Santa Fe during rush hour and back to Albuquerque. An 18 wheeler accident on the way slowed us down for a while. I went straight to the gathering arena to stand in line to purchase tickets for the nest day's powwow. I was told to be ready to stand in line for two hours. I believe it took all of two minutes to do this. I met up with my party at 7 p.m. and we went to dinner.

Saturday morning - breakfast at Denny's after which we again scattered out with some going to the gathering and (where else) others going to the flea market. They wanted to go to the arena for the evening performances after dinner. It all worked out well as we were able to do both. Someone estimated the gathering had between ten and eleven thousand visitors. I believe that to be true and that there would be more for the evening. (Sto Hue Rv Ke Ta Yet)

I had passed out the word that we would depart Albuquerque the nest day, Saturday, at seven in the morning. Sure enough, all were ready and we left town only ten minutes late. An hour and a half out we stopped in Clines Corners for Breakfast. Another stop in Tucumcari then on to Amarillo, TX for lunch. And who do we meet as

we parked our vans? None other than the gift shop people from Okmulgee. It was good to see them.

After lunch and after fueling up, we were east bound and down on our way home. In Oklahoma City, the Tulsa van headed north to pick up Will Rogers Turnpike. The rest of us stayed on I-40. Arrived home after dark tired, safe and sound, but happy for a good journey.

Until next time, Myto!
Jackson Barnett, Senior Services Manager

Report on Senior Activity

Approximately fifty senior citizens attended and participated in the Creek Nation Senior Games on Saturday, April 21st. The event was held at the new elderly nutrition center just north of the complex.

The days activities began with a one mile walk around the elderly housing area. We used that as a health thing and to get warmed up and loose for the other events that followed. Most of the participants took part in the walk.

The first event following the health walk was the basketball free throw shoot for both men and women. The following were winners: 3rd place with 3 out of 10 shots was Bill Chalakee for the white shirt, 2nd place with 5 out of 10 shots was Bobby Bryant for the red shirt, and 1st place with 6 out of 10 shots was Tom Tiger for the blue shirt.

Women: 3rd place with 4 out of 10 shots was Dorothy Pinezadelby for the white shirt, 2nd place with 5 out of 10 shots was Esther Gee for the red shirt, and 1st place with 6 out of 10 shots was Louise Roberts for the blue shirts.

Next event was the rolling pin throw: The first thrower had us all running for cover as Pat Factor threw the pin straight up in the air. In 3rd place with a throw of 48 ft. 11 in. was Georgetta Walker for the white shirt, 2nd place with a throw of 54 ft. and 4 in. was Louise Roberts for red, 1st place with a throw of 55 ft. and 4 in. was Betsy Bear for the Blue.

Men: 3rd place with a throw of 67 ft. and 6 in. was Bobby Bryant for the white shirt, 2nd place with a throw of 69 ft. 11 in. was Jerry Lewis for the red, and 1st place with a throw of 83 ft. and 5 in. was Bill Barnett for the Blue.

Winners of the Bean Bag 4 person team race were:

3rd place: Pat Factor, Lillian Thomas, Jim Thomas, and Dorothy Pinezadelby.

2nd place: Betsy Bear, Mary Barnett, Georgetta Walker, and Bill Barnett.

1st place: Daria Hicks, Johnny Hicks, Louise Roberts, and Bill Chalakee.

Winners of the archery competition with twenty shots were:

2nd place with a score of 36 was Johnny Hicks, 1st place with a score of 38 was Jerry Lewis.

Winners in Horeshoes with ten throws are:

Women: 3rd place with a score of 8 was Liz Holata, 2nd place with a score of 11 was Mary Barnett, and 3rd place with a score of 14 was Oleta Donathan.

Men: 3rd place with a score of 12 was Bobby Bryant, 2nd place with a score of 13 was Tom Tiger, and 1st place with a score of 19 was Bill Barnett.

Winners in the Fishpond-Hooking a fish with rod and reel and bringing it in were:

Women: 3rd place with a time of three minutes and 40 seconds was Betsy Bear, 2nd place with a time of 3 min. 31 sec. was Lillian Thomas, 1st place with a time of 2 min. 16 sec. was Mary Barnett.

Men: 3rd place with a time of 1 min. 9 sec. was Tom Tiger, 2nd place with a time of 45 sec. was Bill Barnett, 1st place with a time of 29 sec. was Jerry Lewis.

Winners in the Jacks competition were:

In 3rd place was Gertie Noble, 2nd place was Mary Buck, and 1st place was Mary Barnett.

Not as many showed up as expected. But those fifty or so who did said they enjoyed the day. Perhaps another time we'll have more coming out.

Lou Jean Fixico and her staff provided us with and excellent box lunch. Some came out to volunteer their help. Many thanks. The Senior Services, Elderly Nutrition Program, and the Diabetes prevention Program worked together to make this event possible.

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Services for Seniors

The Older Americans Act (OAA) created the primary vehicle for organizing, coordinating and providing community-based services and opportunities for older Americans and their families. All individuals 60 years of age and older are eligible for services under the OAA, although priority attention is given to those who are in greatest need. The Senior Community Service Employment program offers part- or full-time employment to low-income persons who are 55 years of age or older.

The OAA established a network, headed by the U.S. Administration on Aging, comprised of State Units on Aging, Area Agencies on Aging, tribal organizations, local service providers, and volunteers. For over 35 years, the aging network has worked cooperatively to implement a variety of programs aimed at meeting the needs of older Americans in the communities they serve.

Senior Medicare Patrols is an OAA-led effort which uses innovative, proactive partnerships across the federal, state and community levels to identify and report health care waste, fraud and abuse. Senior Medicare Patrol projects teach volunteer retired professionals, such as doctors, nurses, accountants, investigators, law enforcement personnel, attorneys and teachers, to help Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries to be better health care consumers.

OAA pension counseling projects are designed to reach out, educate, and promote pension awareness and protection among older individuals as well as to encourage better financial planning.

For more information contact by phone at phone (202) 619-0724 or by e-mail at <http://www.aoa.gov/about/more/more.asp>.

Tribe participates in National Day of Prayer



OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation recognized and participated in the National Day of Prayer on May, 3, 2007. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill led the ceremony.

“Our country really needs prayer because the economy is getting to where gasoline is so high and people can’t afford it,” said Second Chief Berryhill. “There is a lot of turmoil worldwide with our troops being in harms way. Here at Creek Nation our people are in need and we just need to pray for our leader-

ship and our people so that we can get through what’s being put upon us right now. I have faith in the lord and he knows what we need. Eventually, he will answer on his time, not our time. We just need to continue to inherit and have faith in the lord.”

Melinda Taylor, Human Development secretary and a member of the New Beginnings Baptist Church, said, “It felt good to stand out there and pray over the leaders of our nation, the country, and our people. It would be nice to have more of those maybe

once a week just to come together in prayer.

Employees of the tribe were thankful for the opportunity for freedom of expression and a chance for unity. “I thought that it was a good opportunity for the people,” Lora Harjo King, Secretary for the Executive Director. “The main verse for the day was ‘if my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves,’ and that’s what I kept thinking and the focus was prayer for our nation. So I took that as our Creek Nation and we

PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

“Almighty God, we pause to reflect on Your character as we seek wisdom for such a time as this. In these unsafe days, You remain all-powerful and able to protect; In these uncertain times, You remain all-knowing, leading us aright; In the unprecedented events we’re facing, You remain absolutely sovereign. Our times are in Your hands. Therefore, our dependence on You, is total, not partial...our need for Your forgiveness is constant...our gratitude for Your grace is profound...our love for You is deep. We ask that You guard and guide our President and all who serve the people of these United States. May uncompromising integrity mark their lives. We also ask that You unite us a truly “one nation, under God.” May genuine humility return to our ranks. And may that blend of integrity and humility heal our land. In our Lord’s name we pray. Amen.”

— Charles R. Swindoll —

as the people, are the ones that need to pray for our leaders. I thought that it was a good opportunity to bring everyone together. I think that it helped us to realize how important it is for us to keep our leaders such as Chief, Second Chief and National Council and uplift them in prayer.”

The National Day of Prayer is a day designated by the United States Congress as a day when all Americans regardless of faith are asked to come together and pray in their own way. It is held on the first Thursday in May.

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

Gospel Singing

BRAGGS — Sand Spring Baptist Church will be hosting their annual Ward Coachman Memorial Gospel Singing on May 27th.

The location is 1 mile south of Braggs on highway 10, turn west 1 1/2 mile.

Gospel groups welcome, must bring your lawn chairs. Concessions will be available. Everyone welcome!

Singing starts at 7 p.m., M.C. will be Curtis Kinney. For more information please call (918) 682-4703.

Family Reunion

HOLDENVILLE — The Salt Creek United Methodist Church will be hosting the 2007 Henry Long Family Reunion on May 27 beginning at 10 a.m.

Henry Long’s children were Mollie Long Jimboy Cook, Milton Long, Jessie Long, Annie Long McGeeley, Hannah Long Washington.

Each Family is asked to bring a covered dish, a bottled soft drink, and a door prize. Condiments will be provided.

Lunch will be served at noon door prizes 1 p.m. Horseshoe, volleyball games 2 p.m. Please bring your own lawn chairs.

For more information contact Idalene Taylor (405) 379-5902, Janice Screechowl (918) 951-7421, or Fred Long (405) 949-2147. To purchase a reunion t-shirt contact Janice Screechowl.

Vacation Bible School Game Day Central

TIGER MT. — Silver Spring Baptist Church will be hosting a VBS - Game Day Central beginning May 30 - June 2nd.

Classes begin on Wed., Thurs., Fri. at 6:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. and on Sat. from 11:15 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Gospel Singing

EUFULA — West Eufaula Baptist Church will be hosting their annual Bird-creek Phillips Gospel Singing on June 2.

The church is located one mile west of Eufaula on highway 9 turn south one mile turn west 1/10 mile.

All gospel groups welcome. Bring your lawn chairs. Concessions available. Everyone welcome!

The gospel singing will begin at 7 p.m., M.C. will be Curtis Kinney. For more information call (918) 682-4703.

Vacation Bible School

WETUMKA — Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church will be hosting their annual Vacation Bible School beginning June 19 through June 22. With classes beginning at 6 p.m. and ending at 9 p.m.

The church is located 2 1/4 miles North of Wetumka on the lake road.

Revival

SAND SPRINGS — Wekiwa Indian Baptist Revival will be hosting a Revival between June 11-15 beginning 7 p.m. nightly.

With a different guest speaker each night. Monday speaker will be Truett John, Tuesday night speaker will be Philip Fox, Wednesday night speaker will be J.R. Wisdom, Thursday night speaker will be Stan Henson, Friday night speaker will be J.R. Wisdom. With refreshments served nightly.

Church is located in Sand Springs.

Family Reunion

BROKEN ARROW — A Chalakee-Berryhill family reunion has been planned for June 29 through July 1 to be held at the Springtown United Methodist Church.

All relatives and friends of the late Reverend John and Fannie Berryhill Chalakee are invited to attend.

Activities include: Friday 29th, 7 p.m. Talent night; Saturday 30th, all day games for all ages with a talent night beginning at 7 p.m.; Sunday July 1, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. worship.

Meals will be served starting Friday Supper. Camping available on site.

The Church is located at 41st and Oak Grove Road in Broken Arrow.

For more information contact Martha (Tootsie) Reece at (918) 279-0869

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Dedication Service
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*Registration required. Register at www.FallsCreekOK.org or call 1-800-690-6933 by May 21. Limited main campus parking. Group buses encouraged. If attending with a church group, please do not register individually. Satellite parking provided for individual vehicles. FREE roundtrip charter bus available for individuals from FBC, Moore. Charter reservation required at time of registration. (PLEASE DO NOT CALL FBC, MOORE.)

BIRTHS

Jameson Anthony Rolland

SAPULPA — Amber Felix & James Rolland are proud to announce the birth of their son Jameson Anthony Rolland. He was born Feb 27, at 1:16p.m. at the Peggy V. Helmerich Center in Tulsa. He weighed 8lbs 3oz and was 20 1/2 inches in length. He is Creek and Yuchi and the son of the Turtle and Wolf Clans, and attends the Polecat Ceremonial Ground. Maternal grandparents are Karen Felix of Sapulpa and the Late Dennis Felix of Sapulpa. Paternal grandparents are James M. Rolland of Kellyville and Patricia (Katie) Jefferson of Bristow.



BIRTHDAYS

Branson & Hanson Hicks

Bristow — Branson and Hanson Hicks celebrated their 67 birthday on April 11, with a party at their sister Joann Powell's place located in Bristow. Branson & Hanson's parents Arecheparney Hicks and Sarah Coker Hicks. Maternal grandparents are Charlie Coker and Hettie Lena Coker. They are of the Beaver Clan and their Tribal town is New Tulsa.



Jerean Elizabeth Mosquito

GLENPOOL — Jerean celebrated her 4th birthday on February 11th, with a Disney Princess themed party. She had many friends and family members that attended to celebrate her birthday. She is the daughter of Jacob and Misty Mosquito of Glenpool. Maternal grandparents are Ray and Beth Shelton of Middletown, Ohio and maternal great-grandparents are Dr. Ray and Jean Shelton of Waynesville, Ohio and the late Harold Gallagher and Betty Gallagher-Gragg. Paternal grandparents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito of Mounds and paternal great grandparent is Joe Mosquito of Hectorville and the late Lena Mosquito and Tom and Mary Shirley. She has one older sister, Alexandria.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Audrey McCall & Mark Hill

TULSA —Audrey McCall and Mark Hill were selected by the Tulsa Indian Chamber of Commerce "Students of Excellence Award" both students attended a luncheon with Indian Ed. Director Kristi Collington and Amy Hill at the Tulsa Country Club. Both students are members of Duck Creek Ceremonial Grounds. Audrey is planning on attending Bacone College and Mark plans on attending North-eastern State University, TU or OSU.



Patricia Deere

TULSA — Patricia Deere (Muscogee Creek/ Seminole), a thirteen-year-old eighth grader from Kiefer Middle School, participated in the 2007 Youth Listening Conference called Listen Up Tulsa! Deere was selected as a youth speaker to discuss the importance of providing accurate educational information about American Indians and had three minutes to provide data and recommendations to legislators, leaders, and policy makers in the Tulsa community. Deere identified the main problem for Native youth as being, lack of appropriate education about the history and what it means to be American Indian and a citizen of a tribal Nation. She identified the consequences of this lack of education as discrimination and racism. Deere provided some powerful statistics and a personal story regarding these consequences. The US Department of Justice and the Bureau of Juvenile statistics report that American Indians experience more violence than all other races combined. But at least 70% of the violence that Natives experience is brought on by another race and 52% of all violent crimes committed against youth ages 12 to 24. Deere went on to describe the negative stereotypes about American Indians that further contribute to discrimination. Deere challenged the panel to "look at culture as a strength rather than a problem and to take some action to help tell the story about real Oklahoma Indians." Specific recommendations included using American Indians as educators for American Indian issues, to celebrate Native American Day in the community and use it as an opportunity to educate about real issues, to make sure the Native view point is presented in the upcoming Oklahoma Centennial Celebrations, and to use Oklahoma History classes in the schools to tell the whole story about Oklahoma History. One of the outcomes of Deere's speech, in combination with speeches from other youth, is that Tulsa leaders are coming together to plan for a Tolerance campaign to address tolerance of diversity in hopes of improving community acceptance of difference and building pride in all ethnic and religious communities.



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Indian Woman strong arms way to top

“At this event the Seminole Firefighters held an arm wrestling tournament. In 1990 I entered their tournament and won. I’m a college counselor and I had a student invite me to challenge a lady in the crowd. I did, I won, I was really hooked...the day of the tournament you could feel the excitement all around. Arm wrestlers from everywhere were there. I was in awe in of everyone.”

SEMINOLE — Cynthia Yerby was watching an arm-wrestling contest and thought it was somewhat amusing, she like the surroundings and the camaraderie of the ‘circus-like’ atmosphere.

Yerby was there with a friend, the two watched the men combat each other. They saw the intensity and even the drama of a staged contest between two people that was only defined by who was stronger than the other. More precisely, who had the better leverage and technique.

After soaking it all in for a while they decided to watch the women’s division and then saw the same determination, the same power. The attendance for the women did not decrease and was filled to capacity.

“I live in Wolf, Oklahoma” says Yerby, “which is about ten miles south of Seminole. Seminole has an Annual Celebration every June called ‘Gusher Days’. At this event the Seminole Firefighters held an armwrestling tournament. “

The tournament was open to anyone who wanted to enter and Yerby started to get armwrestling bug, so she entered the contest. Perhaps the good genetic connections, resistance-lifting or just plain ‘eating her wheaties, somehow Yerby was physically prepared to enter a sport that she had never participated in. Yerby jumped right into the tournament and won.

Yerby didn’t take it too seriously though, she knew the competition was good, and had fun with it and took it all in stride. But armwrestling is a true sport that is based in a simplistic point of who has the right power. Armwrestling was not finished with Yerby just yet.

Yerby, who is Seminole and Creek also serves as a counselor and a student of Yerby’s was also involved with armwrestling and invited her to come and watch him compete. “Well, after this (student) tournament he convinced me to challenge a lady in the crowd,” recalls Yerby. “I did, I won, I was really hooked.”

Even then Yerby was still playing it cool, occasionally entering local contests. “For the next two years, I was only armwrestling once a year and wanted to do more. One day I was watching a movie called “PK & the Kid”. The movie was about an armwrestler traveling to Petaluma, California to armwrestle in the World Wrist wrestling Championship. After the movie was over, I got curious and called the Petaluma Police Department to see if there really was an armwrestling tournament held there.”

“The day of the tournament, you could feel the excitement all around. Armwrestlers from every where were there. I was in awe of everyone.”

The information given to Yerby was that an actual tournament did exist there and she was invited to come.

It didn’t take Yerby long to consider it . “On a whim, I convinced my brother Glen to make the trip with me.” The brother and sister took off, “I couldn’t believe I was actually there.”

Now all the ‘circus-type’ atmosphere of an armwrsestling tournament was what Cynthia was adding to as well. She still remembers after making the trip to California her first day there. “The day of the tournament, you could feel the excitement all around. Armwrestlers from every where were there. I was in awe of everyone.”

As in any sport, fame follows many of the athletes, some become almost legendary status to a point. With Yerby only beginning, her popularity was already rising among the inner circle, people were already talking about the ‘Oklahoma girl’. But the legend at that time in Women’s armwrestling was a lady by the name of Dot Jones, who was a world champion armwrestler. Yerby was taking in all the sights at the tournament and browsing at one of the t-shirt booths when someone



Creek Seminole armwrestler and former World Champion Cynthia Yerby. (Photo courtesy of Oklahoma Today)

approached Yerby from behind and asked her “you must be that girl from Oklahoma?” Yerby turned around only to see the famous champion behind her. “I told her I had heard she was a World Champion many times over and how it was a pleasure to meet someone so famous,” says Yerby. “ Guess who I had to armwrestle early in the tournament,” laughs Yerby. “I heard Denise Wattles (tournament announcer) say words that made my knees go weak and my stomach turn, “Dot Jones, Cynthia Yerby.” She beat me, but hey, I was proud to take the bronze medal back home to Wolf.”

Yerby had found her niche and was getting quite used to the game by now, she was making annual trips to California, still the home of the world’s championship as well as competing in different prestigious tournaments around the country. Yerby was known now and although she was placing in each contest, she was not able to do any better than third place, which earned her a bronze medal.

“Every October my brother and sometimes even my sister, Christi and I would make our annual trek, and never came home with anything better than a bronze medal. After battling cancer, my Mom passed away in July 1997. She was my biggest fan. Even though she couldn’t travel with us, she was always the first one we called after the tournament. Oklahoma is two hours later than California, so sometimes it was one or two o’clock in the morning. It didn’t matter, she was always waiting by the telephone to hear the results. “

The support that Yerby received from her Mother as well as the rest of her family kept her committed to the sport, even when the costs seemed to be too high and the dedica-

tion to armwrestling didn’t seem to be worth it. Even though with Yerby’s success and winning record, she still wanted to try and make it to the top and be crowned champion. The Bronze wasn’t a bad place to be, but now Yerby was ready for first place and to be a Champion in her own right.

Now with her biggest fan gone, and other contests coming up, Yerby took stock and knew that

she still needed to accomplish some things. A recent defeat in a tournament also added to the crossroads.

“One night, feeling sorry for myself because of my loss, I realized the Missouri State

Tournament was coming up in just a few weeks so I decided to work harder and dedicate my armwrestling to my Mom,” says Yerby. “I won the Missouri tournament!”

The victory helped Yerby gain some ground back and helped her reach for an even bigger goal. A return to Petaluma, but this time with a different result. “Six weeks later, I won the World Wrestling Championship in Petaluma!!” It was a dream come true. I remember one of the referees coming up to me and saying “It’s about time.” He knew how many times I had tried. Everything was perfect, except, I couldn’t make that special call after the tournament.”

Dave Devoto who handles media outlets for professional armwrestling through formats such as armwrestling.com has seen how Yerby has grown through the years and become a

World Champions.

“The first is the most obvious and that is by defeating the best in the world to become the very best,” says Devoto of Yerby. “Cynthia has done this on an International level for many years. In the very beginning she had an inherent ability to understand technique and leverage and did extremely well for many years. Well, but not reaching the top of the very best. After a World Championship many years ago she and I had a conversation regarding reaching the very top and she was discouraged. She was disappointed by always coming in second or third in the World. During that exchange I saw her change almost like a light shown on her and she accepted the fact that she would be World Champion soon. She developed new drive and determination and then achieved her goal and dreams by becoming the very best in the World.”

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May 31 and June 1**

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(To Know and To Be Strong)**

Creek citizens! Come and learn how you can prevent diabetes and stay healthy with diabetes. The National Council is convening a special diabetes summit for you.

Features of the Diabetes Summit include:

Nationally-known Experts in Diabetes
Meet with experts and get straight answers
Nationally known Indian comedian and musician
Healthy Lunches and Snacks
Exercise equipment to try out
Cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar measurements
Nutritious and tasty food to sample
Join others in exercise and get a t-shirt with the summit logo
Get seeds and samples from local growers
Door Prizes: Nike shoes, Wind suits, gas cards and much more!
Summit is Free!

Site: First Baptist Church of Okmulgee, 311 W. 5th Street on the northwest corner of 5th street and Seminole Avenue

Dates/Times:

Thursday, May 31

8:00 a.m. on-site registration, program begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m.

Friday, June 1

7:30 a.m. Early morning activities: yoga, aerobic exercise, walk

8:30 a.m. Program continues until 4:30

Dedication: Dedicated to the healthy future of Mvskoke Tribal Citizens.

For: MCN Creek Tribal Citizens (there are no accommodations for children at this conference); plan to host 350 adults

Register early to be sure you are one of the 350 Summit participants. Get registration forms at local clinics, your community centers, Indian churches or use the form in this paper and return it by mail or fax as stated on the registration form.

Wear comfortable clothes as there will be opportunities for you to be physically active.

Contact: Paula Willits, MCN National Council Women's Caucus Member at (918) 520 – 9725 or Gloria Moore, Family Therapist, Diabetes Program at (918) 756 – 3334 Ext. 245 or Rhonda Crandell, Diabetes Program at Ext. 237



**First Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit
May 31-June 1**

First Baptist Church
Okmulgee, OK

Registration Form

Name (Please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Community _____

Phone number _____

E-mail _____ Your health clinic _____

Please submit this form with a copy of your citizenship card.

This Summit is free and for enrolled members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation only. The Summit is for adults and children will not be admitted.

Pre-registration is encouraged.

You may also register on the day of the Summit.

Pre-register by mailing or faxing this completed form to:

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program

Attention: Gloria Moore

P.O. Box 400

Okmulgee, OK 74447

Fax- 918-752-0140

Contact Information: Paula Willits at (918) 520-9725 or
Gloria Moore at 800-782-8291 or 918-756-3334 Ext. 245, Ext. 237

Get Rich Sooner



There's plenty of cash to be won at Creek Nation Muscogee Casino. Located just south of Muskogee at highway 69 and Peak Boulevard. We offer Blackjack, Poker, Bingo and Electronic Games. Open 7 days a week and 24 hours a day.



MUSCOGEE

3420 W. Peak Boulevard, Muskogee, Ok 74402

For information call (918) 683-1825.

This facility is regulated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation office of Public Gaming.

Council House Indian Art Festival Saturday, June 16, 2007

Day of Events include:
Stomp Dance Demonstration
Basket Weaving Demonstration
1830's Creek/Seminole Encampment
Mahenwahdose Storytelling
Creek Festival Parade
Native American Art Sales

Kenneth Johnson One-Man Show
"Expressions of a Creek Artist in Metal"



For further information contact the museum at: 918.756.2324

Creek Council House Museum

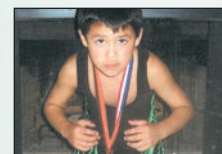
106 W. 6th Street

Okmulgee, OK 74447



partially funded by





Section C, Page 1

MUSCOOKEE NATION NEWS

May 2007

33RD ANNUAL CREEK NATION FESTIVAL

• "REMOVAL • TERRITORY • STATEHOOD • CENTENNIAL: ANOTHER MILESTONE IN OUR JOURNEY"

OKMULGEE — As it approaches its thirty-third year of existence, the Annual Creek Nation Festival once again promises to offer an affordable family-oriented event rich in Mvskoke culture. Countless number of Creek citizens, along with citizens of other tribes throughout Oklahoma as well as the entire nation, will all converge in the heart of Creek country at the Claude Cox Omnplex on June 14-17, 2007.

One of the most well attended Native American events in Oklahoma, the Annual Creek Festival provides an array of activities for participants of any age and various interests, such as the Scholarship Pageant, Rodeo, Youth Olympics, Stompdance exhibition, Senior Activities, concerts, and of course, the staple of the festival, the Men's and Women's fast-pitch softball tournament.

"It's a proven fact that the softball tournament is the main draw of the festival," said Dean Williams, fast-pitch softball tournament coordinator who has 16 years of Creek Festival experience. "If you have ever been to our festival, you know that statement to be true. All the people congregate to the fields to see the best of the best compete."

Not only is the competition the best in Oklahoma, but the awards are second to none. "We have the number one prizes in the state of Oklahoma when it comes to Native American tournaments," said Williams. "The only ones that may be better are the ones that offer cash prizes. Our prizes are even better than the Native American National Tournament." Williams should know first hand because he has played in the national tournament nine times and won first five times. He was also named the most valuable player twice.

Another member of the fast-pitch

softball staff is Phil Booker. Booker, a long-time teammate of Williams known for his hard nosed play, has been a very vital member of the Creek Festival for years. "The success and growth of the festival wouldn't have been possible without the help of Phil," said Lucas Taylor, former Festival Chairman. "He was a jack of all trades. No matter what needed to be done, you could always count on Phil to find a way. He worked many hours on the fields, cutting grass, painting, putting up signs or basic electrical work. Those are the kind of people that make the festival what it is."

As it has been for years past, the Miss and Jr. Miss Mvskoke Nation Scholarship pageant will officially kick off this year's festival on June 1, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Henryetta High School auditorium. The Little Miss and Senior Miss Pageant will follow on June 2, 2007 at 10 a.m. also at the Henryetta High School Auditorium.

"The pageant affords us an opportunity to take those competitors and teach them how to become a strong, proud Muscookee woman," said Jeri Brandon, Scholarship Pageant Committee member. "We also get to teach them the Mvskoke culture. After all, they will be representing the tribe."

This will be the third year since the scholarship pageant was implemented. This change was welcomed by those involved. "We feel education is very vital to our youth," said Brandon. "They receive money only after they complete their one year reign and present us with their grades for the year. It's amazing what this entire pageant does for the confidence of everyone who participates."

The week of events begins on Thursday, June 14, beginning at 6 p.m., with a exhibition Stompdance, coordinated by David Proctor. Tallahassee Wykokaye Ceremonial Ground Mekko. The richest and



most truest form of Mvskoke culture will be on display at the Claude Cox Omnplex.

Following Thursday evening's activities, the Youth Olympics and Golf Tournament will leadoff the many activities scheduled for Friday. The track and field exploits of many young athletes will be showcased at Harmon Stadium beginning at 9 a.m. A Golf Scramble will be held at

Fountainhead Golf Course in Eufaula with registration ending promptly at 11:30 a.m. and the scramble begins at 1 p.m. The qualifying round for the tournament is scheduled for Saturday.

By 6 p.m. Friday evening, the Creek Festival will be in full swing with Elderly activities, Concerts, Rodeo, arts & crafts booths, fast-pitch softball, and gospel and

Creek hymn singing.

Other events scheduled for Saturday include: Parade, Creek Council House Arts Festival, Senior Activities, Pow-wow, 3 on 3 Basketball, Volleyball, Horseshoes, 5K Run, and Living Legends ceremony.

For more information, see C2 for complete Creek Festival preview.

ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP

OKMULGEE — The Creek Festival Committee is proud to announce the lineup for the 33rd Annual Creek Festival entertainment for June 15 - 17. Headlining Friday night's entertainment is Foghat, beginning at 10 p.m. Also performing on Friday night at 8:30 p.m. will be Gary Farmer and the Troublemakers. Farmer



will also be the this year's emcee, as well as the Grand Marshal at the 2007 festival parade.

Some of Foghat's hits include: "Drivin' Wheel," "I Just Want To Make Love To You," "Slow Ride" and "Fool For The City". Foghat is one of the premier bands of classic rock and boogie blues.

The headliner for Saturday night, beginning at 10 p.m., is Marty Stuart. Some of Stuart's hits include: top-10 solo singles such as "Hill-billy Rock," "Tempted" and "Burn Me Down." He has also formed a fruitful partnership with another young traditionalist, Travis Tritt. They had top-10 success with such duets as "The Whiskey Ain't Workin'" and "This One's Gonna Hurt



You For a Long, Long Time."

Special guest for Saturday will be the LoCash Cowboys, who have hits such as "BOOM BOOM", and "Yeah Yeah." LoCash has touched down in Wisconsin, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Kansas, Indiana, Arkansas, and everywhere in between. They perform soul classics, rock, pop and country.

Also on Saturday, starting at 7 p.m., will be a special event. Saturday's entertainment kicks off at 2 p.m. with native singing, followed by door prizes at 5:30 p.m. The Living Legends Ceremony and State of the Nation Address with Principal Chief A.D. Ellis will begin at 6 p.m. Chief Ellis will also be drawing for a grand prize at 7:45 p.m.

Finally, headlining on June 17, starting at 5 p.m., will be Jami Smith, a recording artist and worship leader who travels the United States and the world leading others to the heart of God through worship. Some of her hits include: "Salt and Light," "Wash Over Me," "One and Only," and "Happy Dying."

Jami lives in Oklahoma, where in 1999 she established Spring Rain Ministries, a non-profit ministry. After 11 years of leading worship, Jami still finds herself moved by the people she meets and the joy and reality of every ones need for Christ. She spends her time serving in her local community, along with a full schedule of leading worship, speaking and writing.

Also included on Sunday's entertainment list, will be gospel singing at 2 p.m., followed by special guest, The Chosen at 3:30 p.m.

For more information about this year's Creek Festival entertainment, contact Selina Jayne at (918) 618- 4301.



Beauty of the Muscookee Nation
Scholarship Pageant 2007
June 1-2
Henryetta Gymnasium, Henryetta, Okla.

Contact Koko Lowe for details 918-732-7649

June 1 & 2 Scholarship Pageant

The festival will officially kick off with the Miss and Jr. Miss Mvskoke Scholarship Pageant on June 1 at 7 p.m., followed by the Little Miss and Sr. Miss Mvskoke on June 2 starting at 10 a.m. Both pageants will be held at the Henryetta High School Auditorium.

On June 9, the newly crowned Mvskoke Royalty will make their first appearance at a reception held at the Creek Council House Museum beginning at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact KoKo Lowe at (918) 732-7649.

June 9 & 10 Slow pitch Softball

Another fun event of the festival is the Men's, Women's and Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball tournament. Once again this year's tournaments will have its own special weekend. Action starts on Friday, June 8 at 7 p.m. at the Claude Cox Omnplex and will continue on Saturday, June 9 beginning at 8 a.m.

All participants must be from a federally recognized tribe. Balls will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for the top four teams, MVP awards, all tournament team, and Golden glove award.

For more information, contact Victor Bear (918) 261-2315 or Lucas Taylor at (918) 732-7634.

June 14 Stomp Dance

To open the full weekend of the 34th Annual Creek Nation Festival, a Stomp Dance exhibition will be held on the grounds of the Claude Cox Omnplex, in front of the main stage. Fellowship will begin at 6 p.m., and dancing will continue until 12 a.m. Everyone is invited.

For more information, contact David Proctor at (918) 756-8504.

June 15 Youth Olympics

The Junior Olympics will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 15 at Harmon Stadium in Okmulgee.

Competition events at the Olympics include: ages 6-7, 30- meter dash, 50-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 8-9, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 10-11, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and a hoop shoot; ages 12-13, 100-meter dash, 200- meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400-meter relay, hoop shoot, and long jump; ages 14-15, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400- meter relay, 1 mile run, hoop shoot, and long jump.

For more information, contact Tanya Bardin or Dawn Edwards at (918) 732-7869.

June 16 Elderly Activities

Muscogee people never forget their elders, and that's no different during the Creek Festival, there's several special events planned just for them. Friday morning, June 16, behind the Housing building, starting at 9 a.m. there will be a quilt show contest with first place receiving \$100, second place receiving \$50, and third place receiving \$25. There will be a jacks contest with sign up starting at 9 a.m. Prizes will be: first, \$50; second, \$30 and third, \$20.

A horseshoes doubles tournament will be played, with registration at 9 a.m. First place will receive \$200, second place will receive \$100, and third place will receive \$50. There will be 18 games of bingo and door prizes. However, a citizenship card is required to claim prizes.

Bring a quart of sofke to be judged at the sofke contest.

Arts and Crafts welcomed, with set up starting at 8 a.m. and must bring your own tables and chairs. Lunch will be provided.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Speaker of the National Council will be on hand to honor the original allottees starting at 1:30 p.m.

For more information, please call Donna Martin at (918) 732-7962.

June 15 Youth Basketball

The youth 3 on 3 basketball will be held Friday night on June 15th at the Okmulgee County YMCA starting at 5 p.m. The entry fee is \$40 (cash, money order, or cashier's check) and the deadline to enter is June 4th.

The divisions will be 8 - 10 coed, 11 - 12 girls and boys, 13 - 15 girls and boys, and 16 - 18 girls and boys. Prizes will be t-shirts for 1st place, 2nd and 3rd place, and sweatshirts for the MVP of each division.

For more information, contact Celesta Johnson at (918) 623-1424 or (918) 759-7944; or Tamara Berryhill at (918) 623-1424 or (918) 623-6918.

June 15 - 17 Fast pitch Softball (Men & Women)

Always an exciting sporting event of the festival is the Men and Women's Fast Pitch Softball Tournament. Teams from all over the country will compete.

This year's action will start on Friday, June 15 at the Claude Cox Omnplex and the fast pitches will keep on going through Sunday when the top two teams left standing will battle it out to call themselves the "2007 Creek Nation Festival Champions!" The first pitch is thrown at 6 p.m. on Friday, with Saturday and Sunday's action starting at 8 a.m. and continuing throughout the day at the Claude Cox Omnplex. Deadline to enter this prestigious tournament is June 4.

To find out more about each tournament or to receive an entry form, contact Dean Williams at (918) 732-7790 or Phil Booker at (918) 732-7694.

June 15-17 Golf

Golfers have a busy festival weekend ahead of them. There is a scramble on June 15 (open to the public) at Cobblestone Creek Golf Club located at 700 E. Smith Ferry Rd. in Muskogee and costs \$50 to enter. Registration ends promptly at 11:30 a.m. and the scramble begins at 1 p.m.

Saturday, June 16, is the qualifying round for the tournament, during which players schedule their own tee time. Sunday, June 17, the tournament will begin at 8:00 a.m. and costs \$80 (includes cart & green fees) to enter. The tournament starts on June 15, and the top 3 placers in each flight are the winners. The tournament is Native American only.

For more information, contact Perry Anderson at (918) 732-7827, Bert Robison at (918) 279-3203, or Cobblestone Creek at (918) 682-4845.

June 17 Gospel Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Gospel Singing will be at 2 p.m. on June 17 at the Claude Cox Omnplex. This year's event promises to bring forth that "old time religion" feel with some great southern gospel and contemporary singing that will be entertaining as well as inspirational.

Performers tabbed for the event include: Jami Smith, The Chosen, Gospel Lights, and Taylor Osbourn. Don't forget to attend this time of refreshing for the soul. You can experience great fellowship and uplifting music in the same setting.

For more information on the Gospel Singing, contact Geebon Gouge at (918) 732-7711.

June 15 & 16 Rodeo

The 34th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation All-Indian Rodeo takes place on June 15 and 16 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly at the Rodeo Arena, located at Highway 75 & Loop 56 behind the Travel Plaza.

This year's event promises to include the excitement and entertainment that Festival rodeo fans have grown accustomed to. Entry fees will be accepted both nights at 5:30 p.m. Entry fees are \$75 for all events (Team roping \$75 per man and Junior events \$20 entry fee). Call-ins will be taken June 12 from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. The phone number is (580) 924-8112.

Non-association members must purchase a \$15 permit. You must provide tribal enrollment card at time of entry. There will be a \$10 stock charge, stock provided by Western Ways Rodeo Co.

For more Rodeo information, call (918) 732-7650.

June 15 - 17 Concerts

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Concerts are one of the most anticipated events of the year and this year's entertainment is certain to not disappoint in that regard. Entertainers from many different backgrounds and styles will grace the big stage over the course of two days providing electrifying performances for those in attendance.

All concerts will be performed on the main stage at the Claude Cox Om-

niplex. Friday, June 15 entertainment will be: Gary Farmer & The Trouble-makers at 8:30 p.m. and Foghat at 10:00 p.m.

Saturday's, line up includes: Native singing, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.; Second Chief Alfred Berryhill "Warm Welcome" Scholarship, 5:30 p.m.; Special prize drawings; Living Legends Ceremony, & Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address, 6:00 p.m.; LoCash Cowboys at 8 p.m. and Marty Stuart at 10 p.m.

On Sunday at 2 p.m. will be Gospel Singing. The Chosen will perform at 3:30 p.m. and Jami Smith at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Selina Jayne at (918) 618-4301.

June 16 & 17 Creek Hymn Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be hosting the 4th Annual at the Cluade Cox Omnplex on June 15 and 16 lasting from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. on both days. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center on both days.

Shuttles will be provided and will begin at 1:30 to 5:30. They will pick up and drop off every hour after departure. Jimmy Anderson will be this years MC and special guest will be Marcia Jonston playing the flute. This event is a great chance to get in touch with the traditional singing of Creek people and witness one of the dearest facets of the Muscogee culture.

For more information, contact Mike Coon at (918) 279-3250.

June 16 5k Walk/Run

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 5k Walk/Run will take place on June 16 at Highway 75 and Loop 56 on the Muscogee Nation Complex. Runners and walkers are to report at 8 a.m.

An entry fee of \$15 will be taken up to June 14. The entry fee will be \$20 on Race Day (includes T-shirt). Entry fee without T-shirt will be \$10. Limited number of shirts available.

Trophies will be awarded to Overall Male and Female. Medals to top three finishers in each group. Age groups beginning 12 and under up to 70 and over. Ribbons to first three overall male and female walkers.

This event is coordinated by Glen's Racing Service. For more information contact Cheryl Najera at (918)732-7960 or Betty Kirkland at (918)732-7867. Or register by mail: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival 5k Run/Walk, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

June 16 Horseshoes

The Horseshoe event this year will be

held June 16, starting at 8 a.m. There will be a singles event and a doubles event. Entry fee's are \$15 singles and \$20 for doubles. Cash prizes to first, second, and third place, and for most ringers in one game (for singles only).

Players need to bring their own shoes, with no modified horseshoes allowed, and partners will be drawn for the doubles competition. The tournament will be double elimination with 21 throws per game.

For more information, contact Jesse Lindsey at (918) 857-9756.

June 16 Volley Ball

Volley Ball lovers have nothing to fear, their favorite game is back and kicks off on June 16 at 9 a.m. at the Claude Cox Omnplex. Registration is open until May 31, and costs \$100.

The Tournament is pool play, teams are 8 players, and the games are played rally point to 21 for the first two matches, and rally point to 15 if there is a third match (Must win by two, cap at 21).

Prizes this year include jacket, sports bag and team volleyball for first place, hooded sweatshirts and team volleyball for second, sweatshirts and team volleyball to third. For more information, contact Randall or Cherokee Hicks at (918)732- 7826 or (918) 758-0598, or visit the website at <http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/index.htm>

June 16 Pow-wow

The Creek Nation's Festival's Pow-wow will be held on Saturday, June 16 at the OSU-Okmulgee Covelle Hall. The Gourd Dance will begin at 1 p.m., supper will be at 5 p.m. and registration will be at 6:30 p.m. The Grand Entry Social & Contest Dancing will begin at 7 p.m.

There are several contests including: Tiny Tots, Junior Boys; Junior Girls; Women's Cloth; Women's Buckskin; Women's Jingle; Women's Fancy Shawl; Men's Straight; Men's Fancy; Men's Grass; Men's Traditional; Golden Age Men (55+); Golden Age Women (55+); Drum Contests (Wireless Microphone will be provided).

For more information, contact Pete G. Coser, Pow Wow Coordinator, at (918) 758-1480. or pcoser@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

June 17 Parade

The Second Annual Creek Nation Parade will be held in downtown Okmulgee. Parade entries must be sub-

mitted by Thursday, June 1st by 4:30 p.m. The line up numbers may be picked up at 10:30 a.m. All entries will be expected to be at the line-up site at 11 a.m. The parade will go from West 6th and Alabama east to Porter Street. All winners will be notified.

June 16 Adult Basketball

The adult 3 on 3 basketball tournament will be held Saturday, June 16 at the Okmulgee County YMCA starting at 8 a.m. The entry fee is \$40. Prizes will be announced.

For more information, contact Larry Grounds at (918) 732- 7825.

June 16 Living Legends

One great event of the festival is the living legends ceremony. Created by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, the living legends ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have made significant contributions to the tribe.

The ceremony takes place on Saturday afternoon, June 16, at the Omnplex main stage.

For more information, contact Rachel Sumka at (918) 732-7604.

June 16 Arts Festival

The 2007 Creek Council House Indian Art Festival has become a part of the scheduled festivities and will take place on Saturday, June 16 on the historic grounds of the Creek Council Museum.

The Council House is located in downtown Okmulgee. Native American artists from all over the country will showcase their art in the formats of paint, sculpture, pottery, jewelry making class and metal. Children's events, food vendors.

Events begin at 10 a.m. The art festival is held in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

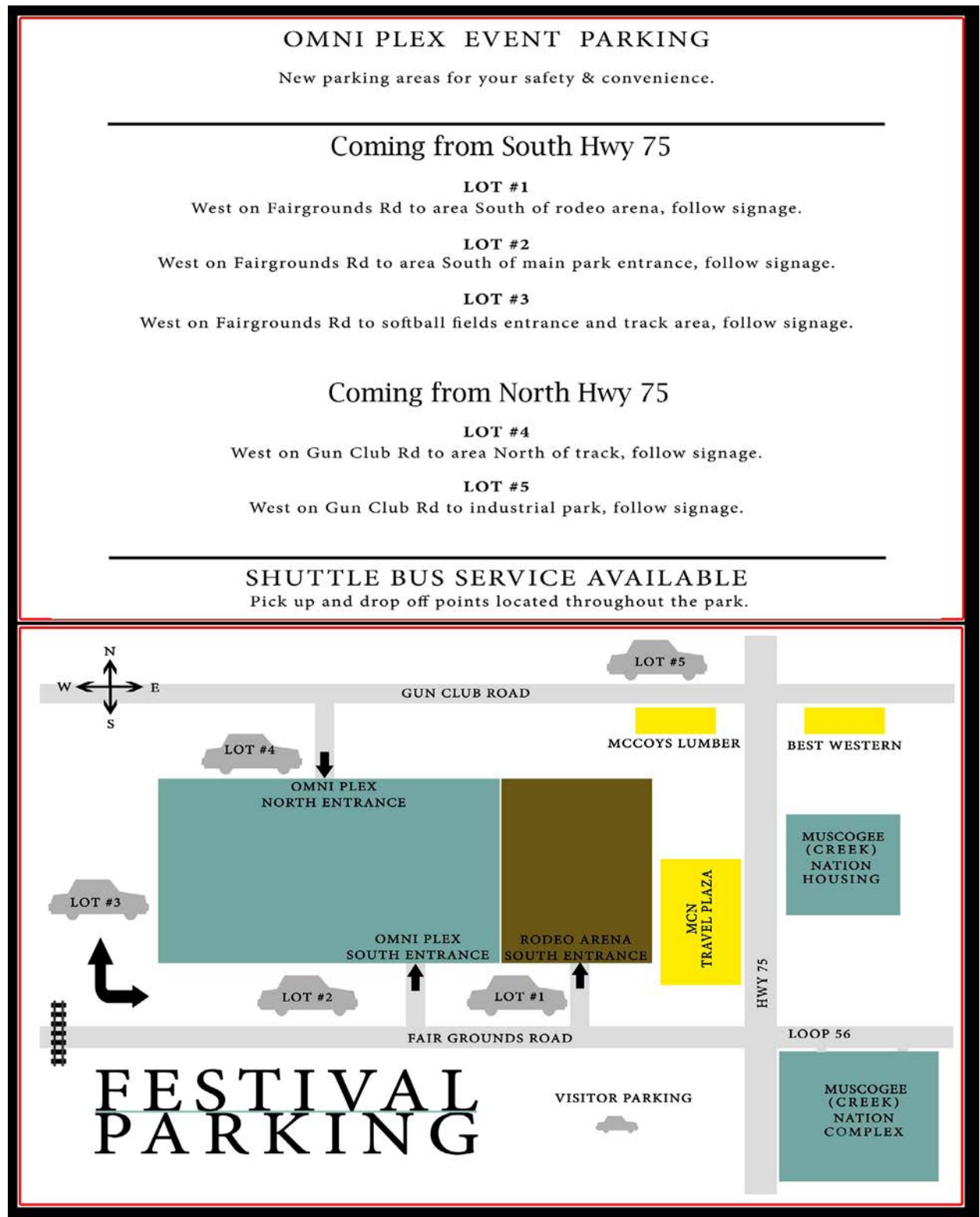
For more information, contact (918) 756-2324.

June 15-17

Arts & Crafts Booths

Registration will be accepted until full capacity. Authentic is \$75 non is \$125. \$25 cash deposit at check-in. The fee is refundable if the area is left like it was checked in. Total of 32, booth spaces. 23 authentic and nine non authentic. There are still seven food booths remaining, commercial is \$400 and non commercial is \$300. A \$200 deposit is required.

For more information, contact Shelly Been (918) 732-7719.



Third time's a charm for gamers in the Mile High City

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

DENVER — You sometimes hear the old saying “close, but no cigar” when an ultimate goal is nearly achieved. When it came to the annual Amerind All-West Classic Indian basketball tournament in Denver, 4 Love of the Game organization was all too familiar with the feeling. They won't have to worry about that anymore.

Thanks to a run equivalent to a hot knife through butter, the two teams representing 4 Love of the Game coasted through competition and ended up as champion and runner-up in the girls and boys divisions respectively. “It's safe to say that when we walk in the gym next year, we'll command a little more attention,” said trip coordinator Lucas Taylor.

For the girls squad, it was extra sweet. They had come very close last year with a perfect pool play record, but were tripped up by a hot team and settled for third. On the boys side, a championship trophy was just out of reach as the title game went to overtime to be decided. After a hard fought game the boys were on the losing end, but not without finishing off their best tournament performance to date.

According to those traveling with the teams, the fantastic finishes were great but not shocking. “Honestly, when you look at the talent assembled on both these teams, this was an expected outcome,” said 4 Love of the Game board member



Pictured, from left to right, are: back row, Kristi Patterson, Megan Selvidge, Mallory Walker, Cassie Consedine, Samantha Hamilton, and Coach Les Reed; front row, Nikki Lewis, Hayley Knifechief, and Angel Goodrich.

BJ Waggnor. “We had come so close before and now just getting over the hump is really special for those young people.”

Among the terrific team performance was some stand-out individual efforts as well. Angel Goodrich was named the girls MVP and was also on the All-Tournament team. Joining her on the All-Tournament squad were Savannah Ham-

ilton and Haley KnifeChief. Nikki Lewis nabbed the Hustle Award. For the boys Joe Jon Smith and Jerrod McMillan were represented on the All-Tournament team, with McMillan also claiming the Hustle Award.

In the slam dunk contest, high flyer Randy July finished as runner-up. July was the dunk champion at this year's March Madness tourna-

ment in Henryetta.

What turned out to be a wildly successful weekend on the court, might have been even more gratifying because of what transpired when games weren't even being played. “I tell you what, I'm so proud to say that we might have had the best character kids at the whole tournament,” said Taylor. “With so many kids there from other places you observe what's

CLEANING UP ON HARDWARE

4 Love of the Game girls' team members show off a little hardware from the 23rd Annual Amerind All-West Classic, held earlier this month in Denver, CO. Angel Goodrich, bottom right, was named the tournament's MVP. This was the third year 4 Love of the Game has traveled to Denver. Next year, the organization plans on traveling to New York to compete in a tournament that features Native American teams, such as the Florida Seminole and Mississippi Choctaws.

For more photos on the 23rd Annual All-West Classic visit www.4loveofthegame.org.
photo by Lucas Taylor

Native Football All-Star Game now taking applications

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Writer

Native Americans know their football. It's as simple as that. Don't believe me? Pick up the April 23rd issue of Sports Illustrated and look across the top. There, you will read a preview of a feature story inside: “The team that invented football.” That story is not about the New England Patriots, Indianapolis Colts or the Green Bay Packers. It's about Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indians.

The tradition of Native Americans and the game of football is both rich and storied. Building on the momentum of that tradition, the Native American All-Star football game will be played for it's sixth year later this summer. Game coordinator and co-founder of the wildly popular ndnsports.com website John Harjo can't help but be pleased when looking back on the progression of this event. “This game has grown tremendously since the first year,” said Harjo. “That first year we were really having to look hard for players, now they are looking for us through e-mails and phone calls, there's almost too many of them. But that's a problem I'll take.”

Players from as far as Washington and Florida have been represented in the game, as well as historic Hall of Fame Indian coaches such as former Princi-

pal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Perry Beaver.

According to the game's official website, www.nativeallstar.com, the game is for Native American and Alaska Native high school football players along with Canadian Aboriginals who will graduate in 2007 that are able to prove their Native heritage by holding a tribal identification card from a federally recognized Native American Indian Tribe or a Canadian Indigenous Tribe. Since 2002, this game has given young native American men the honor to finish out their outstanding high school careers, many go on to compete on the college level and others to begin a new endeavor outside of football.

Participants for the game are chosen by a selection process where their attributes and talents are weighed against other applicants and two squads are then selected. The application process



is already under way, even though a time and date have not been scheduled for this year's contest as of now. “We are currently looking at a few places where the game could possibly be held this year,” said Harjo. “I'm confident we'll have a date and time set sooner than later.”

Participants for the game are provided room and board for the week, are involved in tours and activities and are awarded individual trophies for performance in the actual game. There is also a week of practice that leads up to the weekend festivities. New to this year's game will be the Lineman trophy given to the game's outstanding interior offensive/defensive lineman.

Those wanting inclusion into this years game are encouraged to apply online at www.nativeallstar.com.

Editor's Note: Thanks to John Harjo and nativeallstar.com for contributions to this article.

HOT CORNER

Hensi! Time to bring out the May flowers and get rid of the April showers, because I am sick of having softball games/tournaments rained out! Anyway, I hope everybody out there is doing fine. Let me lead off by saying that it seems the month of April has moved at a snail's pace. I mean, to me it feels like ages since I last brought the ‘Corner’ out, but that's probably just because I'm so glad to be the writer of this column that I get too anxious. Not sure, but what I do know is that I'm ready to dive into this month's column like a bowl of dumplings, so buckle up!

First order of business, and really it's the only way to kick it off, is to deliver massive props to a special group of young NDN men and ladies that represented Native people with a great sense of pride this month in Denver, CO. Each year at the conclusion of it's premier “March Madness” high school basketball tournament, 4 Love of the Game organization board members pick the outstanding performers and comprise an All-Star team. This team is selected to then represent 4 Love of the Game in Denver at one of Indian basketball's top tournaments, the Amerind All-West Classic. The tournament, now in it's 23rd year, attracts teams and tribes from all over each year. Over 40 teams were involved at this year's event, making it a difficult task to come out on top. No big deal for the young people from Oklahoma. All they did was waltz in and take home the championship trophy in the girl's division and came within a fraction of making it a double title, as the boy's dropped a narrow decision in overtime of the championship game.

If the other teams and tribes failed to take notice of the 4 Love of the Game entourage before, they certainly will now because they walked out of the Classic carrying some serious hardware. But more importantly, 4 Love of the Game is an organization that is comprised of and founded by Creek citizens. It is also an organization based and operated here in the heart of Creek Country. Anytime there is a trip or event the organization is represented as a whole, not individually. With that in mind, it's gratifying to be informed that these young people not only made us proud on the court, but off of it as well with squeaky clean behavior. And those are the type of things that should never go unnoticed.



JASONsalsman
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In today's times there is a lot of misunderstanding about Indian people and who we really are and the things we are capable of. Every day there is a new Indian doctor, musician, athlete, etc. The young generation of Indian kids is a strong people, just like the ones before them. All is not lost with today's youth, in fact, the future is very bright. So let's make sure and stay behind them, support them, and do what we have to do to encourage them through any avenue possible.

Now I know it's a little early to switch gears to football, but this is something I have to mention. My good pal John Harjo, a co-founder of ndnsports.com, is the organizer of the Native American All-Star football game. The game is played each summer, and has featured some terrific gridiron talent. Several players from the game have gone on to do great things both on and off the football field. With the amount of Indian kids that are continuing to make waves on the high school football scene, I think the game each year is just going to get better and better. I mean Creek Nation alone, is putting the talent out there. Look for big years in 2007 from Creek boys Billy Jack Murphy of Davenport, Nick Whitlow of Henryetta and Ronnell Lewis of Dewar. Those three are just a few of our athletes that are sure to show up in the game if they hold true to form. Talking to John, I understand interest in this year's game is as high as it's been and they are expecting the Indians to come out in large numbers to show support for these young people.

I can't believe how time flies, because I'm about to start talking about the Creek Festival already! But, I have to in order to let you guys know that my pockets will be a little fatter after I line them with some cash after this year's annual Creek-end. I'll be pitching horseshoes and I don't plan on doing anything but coming in first place..

Well I guess that'll wrap it up for this month. Don't forget everyone the festival is next month, so come on out and enjoy yourself, watch a concert, watch Indian cars coast on fumes during the parade, or just have a ball watching everyone else. I tell you what, there are some characters out there! Also, I know we Creeks aren't really known for this, but there's also food too if you want to eat. So with all that being said, lift each other up, take care of yourselves and for crying out loud pick a wild onion or two. I'm out.



4 Love of the Game to offer online sports talk radio show

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — Since it's inception, 4 Love of the Game organization has worked tirelessly to get the word out about Native athletes and sports in general. One of the tools they have used in this endeavor is multi-media. For instance, if you log on to www.4loveofthegame.org, you can have access to highlight videos, interviews and game footage not shown anywhere else.

The organization has also reached out to the print medium as well, with the publication of “4Love of The Game Sports Magazine.” The magazine has covered a wide range of topics and has utilized mainstream style to reach it's

modern-day readers.

With that same goal in mind, 4 Love of the Game is now throwing it's hat into the radio ring. Sports talk radio is something of a firestorm in this part of the country. The organization has decided to utilize that fact, and a new 30 minute sports talk format show will begin airing at the end of this month on www.4loveofthegame.org. The show will cover Native happenings in the sports world as well as a wide range of topics having to do with professional, collegiate and high school competition.

For more information on the program and it's debut, contact Lucas

Taylor at (918) 650-3920 or lvmh4@yahoo.com.

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Creek-Yuchi Wrestler slamming opponents without the use of sleeper holds or WWE moves

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

GLENPOOL— As the headline pokes a little humor at the sport of wrestling, aimed more at its professional heritage, it has become a sport of the utmost physical discipline and should be seen as a positive outlet for all ages involved with it. It has also become a popular sport. A national tournament that was held this past January in Tulsa brought in millions to the local economy.

Adding to the number young wrestlers, a young Creek-Yuchi athlete from Glenpool has joined this unique fraternity of disciplined athletes. At the young age of seven, Caleb Bigpond is making himself known in the world of amateur wrestling. This young floor mat specialist seriously took up the sport this past fall and has really been making a name for himself. Bigpond wrestled for Thunder Wrestling in Sapulpa, Oklahoma at 60 pounds in division I.

Bigpond placed first throughout the season in open tournaments around northeastern Oklahoma. Fans visiting the tournament sites, such as Broken Arrow, Wagoner, Coweta and Claremore, saw first hand what this little warrior could do in one-on-one physical combat.

After the local tournaments

were over, Bigpond turned his sights to larger tournaments such as the Northwest Regional Tournament in Cushing. He took first, but didn't stop there.

After regionals, Bigpond went on to the State Tournament. Not many Native American athletes competed at this event, but he made his presence known by finishing as State Runner-Up in his age division respectively.

When Bigpond is not doing his thing on the mat, he is busy with other sports as well. He was part of the offensive line of the Glenpool Mighty Mites in Little League Football in October and November. He skill doesn't end there, he was also displaying hardwood skills as a member of the local basketball league during the winter.

School is also very important to Bigpond, as he is just wrapping up the first grade. He uses the same dedication in the classroom as he does on the wrestling mat.

He plans to continue competing in sports whether its on the mat, shooting baskets in the hoop, or blocking and making holes for running backs for touchdowns.

Caleb is the son of Negiel and Collette Bigpond. Bigpond is the grandson of Negiel and Jan Bigpond of Hectorville and Paul and Della Perez of Tulsa.



Caleb Bigpond proudly displays all his winnings throughout the year in wrestling. He is entering his third year of pinning opponents on the mat.

4 Love of the Game announces staff for football camp; plans being made for softball camp

DEWAR — 4 Love of the Game will be hosting their 1st Annual "Day of Champions" Football Camp on July 2, 3, and 4, 2007 for Native American boys and girls in the second through eighth grade. The camp will feature 2000 Heisman Runner-up and Walter Camp Award recipient Josh Heupel and OU standout linebacker and Dick Butkus Award winner Rocky Calmus.

"The Day of Champions staff is basically a who's who of football stars and coaches," said Victor Bear, 4 Love of the Game Board Member. "Josh Heupel, Rocky Calmus, and Josh Norman, all who were OU standouts and have NFL experience, will be at the camp to share their knowledge and expertise of the game with our youth."

Students who will be freshmen in fall are allowed to participate. The Dewar High School football field has been set as the site for the camp.

Josh Heupel, OU Quarterbacks Coach and Founder of the 14 Foundation, along with his father, Ken, will be coordinating the football camp. The 14 Foundation, a non-profit organization that gives back to the community, is involved in several charities and every year holds a holiday food drive at the final Sooners home game.

The three day camp focuses on teaching the principles of successful leadership by setting the discipline, then establishing respect, trust and hard work. "The heart of what the Day of Champions Football Camp and the 14 Foundation stand for are along the same grounds as 4 Love of the Game," said Bear. "We're are very excited about the relationship we are building with Ken and Josh. A lot more things are already in the works."

As stated in last month's issue of the MNN, one of the highlights of the camp is Fantasy Day, where parents team up with campers for competitions with other teams. It's a fun chance for parents to get involved. "Fantasy Day is a chance for parents and kids to build on their



relationships," said Heupel.

The cost for the camp is \$75, nonrefundable, in the form of a money order or cashier's check. The fee covers three days of skilled instruction, lunch, and a camp T-shirt. Also, at the end of the camp, a photograph and autograph session will be held. Campers must provide their own transportation to and from the camp.

Recently, collaborative efforts with the Creek Nation Housing Division has created an opportunity to help those families who have participated in or received assistance through Housing Division programs with payment of the camp fee. Once verification is made and eligibility is established with the Housing Division, a camp registration form can be turned in.

"This will be such an amazing experience for our youth, not just for the invaluable experience they will take away from it, but just to see all those top notch athletes there investing time in their development," said Bear.

Also in the works is a Day of Champions softball camp. 4 Love of the game has been meeting with Ken Heupel and has secured June 30 and July 1 as a tentative date. The camp will be held at the Claude Cox Omnplex. The fee for each participant, ages nine to 14, will be \$75.

These camps will involve skills training and exhibition games as well. Nickie Engelbrecht, former All-American at Texas Woman's University and Director of Operations of the University of Oklahoma Women's softball, will direct this year's camp. Engelbrecht, a South African native, along with current OU softball players, will be on hand to give one-on-one instruction.

"Our main goal is to get our kids the proper training they need in order to compete at a very high level, with a chance of competing at the next level, college or professional," said Bear.

In last month's issue of the MNN, we asked for feedback to see if our kids are interested and try to establish a number we can use to design the camp. Currently, 4 Love of the Game has received no interest.

"It's really disappointing," said Bear. "We have a great staff ready to go but no interest. Our time is running out."

The football camp is limited to 125 participants on a first come, first serve basis. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.4loveofthegame.org or requested by mail. To mail in or request registration forms, contact 4 Love of the Game at: Day of Champions Football Camp, Rt. 3 Box 153, Henryetta, OK 74437.

SHOP TALK with GERALD

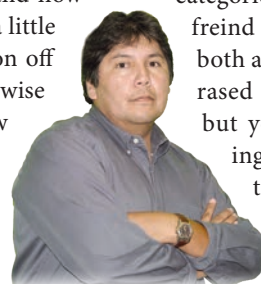
Well, I hope everyone is safe and sound out there and you're getting a chance to watch some really good sporting events happening out in Creek Country and beyond. That's the good thing about sports and how it is good to watch. Takes a little bit of the stress and tension off what can seem like an otherwise 'tough' day. I mean how many times can you turn the tube on and catch a great game, and this is the time to do it as the NBA playoffs are gearing up. What a surprise that the Miami Heat are not returning to defend their Championship, the first time since the year 2000 that this has occurred when Phoenix took out Champion San Antonio. True the Heat were a little banged up and star player Dwyane Wade may require shoulder surgery, but the Bulls looked ready and certainly made a good run at the Heat. Coach Riley said they are a great team and can go a long way. Are we seeing another Chicago Championship in the making?...stay tuned.

The Creek Festival is just around the corner and already teams are being created to prepare for the softball tournaments, 3 on 3 basketball and the traditional horseshoes.

Speaking of horseshoes, my famous co-host, Mr. Salsman is one of the coordinators of this year's Horseshoe tournament. Salsman who originally hails from Eufaula has good horseshoe pedigree. Salsman's Grandfather, Clyde Salsman, was known throughout these parts as someone who knew where to throw the metal.

Salsman will team up with shoe veteran Jesse Lindsay. Lindsay, like Salsman has knowledge of the game and looks to run a tip-top tournament.

For folks out there that always visit the festival only to watch other family members participating in various festival activities, we encourage you to consider entering the Creek Nation Festival Horseshoe tournament. The only sport besides darts, that can



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boast of saying that you only have to be close has a division for everyone, even if you feel you are limited in your experience and knowledge of the game, there is a spot for you and with team categories available, you can take a friend to help out. That way, if you both are bad, you won't be embarrassed all alone. No, just kidding, but you should consider entering, don't let grandson have all the fun playing softball or grandma getting first place in arts and crafts, have some fun yourself.

As you have probably noticed this sports page as of late, a lot of information about boxing has been published, first about the National Native American Boxing Championships. This is the first time ever for the event to be held in Oklahoma. The best Amateur Native American Boxers, with many having potential of Olympic try-outs, will be in Oklahoma.

Last month, Maurice 'Mo' Smith, who represents the Native American Sports Council looks forward to bringing the amateur tournament to Oklahoma.

With Oklahoma being a host this year, it is encouraged to have as many young athletes who are interested in boxing to (no pun intended) give it a shot.

Basically like any other sports tournaments like basketball or softball, it's all about getting the information and entering. Who knows maybe their is an athlete with some potential and will find their sports niche, and this tournament is not just opened to the guys as ladies are also encouraged to enter.

The sport of women's boxing is alive and has to be looked upon, already their is a voice to try and create women's boxing in the Olympics, wouldn't that be something? Another athletic outlet for Indian athletes as well, and I think a lot of Indian women are good fighters, probably a lot of Indian men can back up that statement. Keep letting us know about the athletes, thanks.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Which sports competition is the best during Festival week?

GERALD WOFFORD

Well, certainly there are so many sports to choose from, but I think the staple has always been the rodeo competitions.

From the Jr. Rodeo to the main rodeo event this has always been the main attraction of all festival events.

It actually started the festival as we know today-being named the Creek Nation Rodeo all by itself

at one time.

The rodeo also attracts more people from different backgrounds as well.

You see people that you know are 'die-hard' fans of the festival, then you can turn around and see rodeo people that you know are only there for the event as well others that want to find out rodeo is all about, bring on the Creek Festival!

JASON SALSMAN

Well, I think the easy answer here is slow-pitch softball. Deservedly so, I mean we Indian people love our softball. Basically, there aren't too many able Indians out there right now, who are not on a team or looking to be included on one. But you know me, I'm new school and we youngsters never go the easy route. I'm going to look behind the surface and go with an event that really might not be the most glamorous but surely could be

considered the best; the horseshoe competition. In all the communities located inside the Creek boundaries, I guarantee you there is an abundance of horseshoe pits. Not only can you play in singles competition, which a lot of people like the heads up competition. But you can play doubles to and the camaraderie is definitely there. Just cause an event might be the most popular, doesn't necessarily make it the best.

Mvskoke Artist
Kenneth Johnson

FEATURES
CULTURAL B1



Miss Muscogee!

Samantha Coon, of
Okemah, crowned 2007-
2008 Miss Muscogee
Nation

THE SCENE
ENTERTAINMENT C1



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

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Volume 37, Issue 6
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www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Tulsa Casino construction continues to progress



AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

According to Jerry Lawson, who serves as the construction representative for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Tulsa Casino Construction Project is progressing very well. In fact, some of the construction is ahead of schedule. Even with the high volume of rains that have blanketed the banks of the Arkansas River, Lawson believes the construction will be completed by the projected completion date. For more details on the construction project, please see A-5.

GERALD WOFFORD/MNN

REMEMBER and DEFEND Veterans Affairs Service Office & Museum to hold dedication

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Despite numerous rain delays, the newly constructed Veterans Affairs Service Office and Museum will have a formal dedication on July 12, 2007.

"I have been assured by Jack Chaney, Tribal Construction Manager, that the July 12 completion date is still on schedule," said Ken Davis, Veterans Affairs Director.

Activities will begin at 7:30 a.m. with the assemble of regiments, followed by the National Anthem, and open ranks greeting inspection by dignitaries from the military branches. Preparation for the parade will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the parade to follow at 10 a.m.

The highlight of the parade will be WWII veterans leading the parade, including a special recognition of each WWII veteran. All branches will march in front of the new Veterans Affairs Service Office and Museum, forming a semi-circle for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. At 10:45 a.m. everyone will break for lunch.

Two life size bronze statues created, by Sandra Van Zandt, will also be presented during the ceremony. The first statue is depicting a warrior from the war of 1812, and the second is depicting a Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine, and Coast Guardsmen all rolled into one for WWII.

The bronze statues will be placed on a pentagon shaped black granite pedestal. On both of the statues are engravings that will be unveiled the day of the dedication.



Pictured above, from left to right, are: Jim McCallie, Project Manager MCN Tribal Construction; Butch LeSarge, 3rd Marine Division, Vietnam; Chief A.D. Ellis; Ken Davis, Director of Veteran Affairs; Smiley Barnett, 11th Combat Engineer Battalion, Korea; and Tony Gile, Project Superintendent, Crestline Construction.

STARLA BUSH/MNN

The statues will be placed just inside the front doors of the building.

"This building would not have been built with out the help and support of our Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and the National Council," said Davis. "I would like to thank Muscogee (Creek) Nation Culture Adviser Tim Thompson and everyone for all their help in making this building possible. This is going to mean so much for our Muscogee Veterans."

The Veterans Affairs Office has been in effect since September of 2004. "It has been a very amazing and great, but also an emotional experience," says Davis.

A total of 176 veterans are receiving compensation, along with some surviving

spouses as well. Out of the 176 veterans that have been helped, 166 are still living. The residuals for 2007 is over \$2 million for the veterans, and over 250 claims are currently in the system.

Documentation needed to begin research for a veteran through the Veterans Affairs Office is the DD-214 (discharge paper) from the veteran or surviving spouse. If the veteran or surviving spouse does not have the DD-214, Davis can request it from the record center in St. Louis, Missouri.

All parking lots will be closed on the north, south, and west sides of the complex. Parking will be open east of the Mound only.

Language program hosts Immersion camp

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program recently held a week long Summer Immersion Camp on May 21 - 25, 2007 at the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Northeast District Campgrounds, located just north of Okmulgee in Preston.

The Mvskoke Language Program began on July 11, 2005. Pilot programs were initiated in public schools in Wetumka, Hanna, Dustin, and Holdenville. For more information about the Immersion Camp, as well as the program, see page B-2.



Immersion Camp

MEETING STATE CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

The Language Program is developing curriculum goals, objectives, and lesson plans for Native Language under the scope of the World Languages curriculum to align with the Oklahoma State Department of Education's PASS objectives for students within a ten-year plan.

Election Board announces filing dates and qualifications

OKMULGEE — The filing dates for candidacy of the Principal Chief, Second Chief, and National Council is July 16, 17 and 18, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A candidate information fair will be held on July 10, 2007 at the Judicial Court room. The first session will be from 10 a.m. to noon, the second session is scheduled for 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Election Board encourages any citizen and current elected official, who seriously consider filing as a candidate for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council, attend the candidate fair. Information will consist of a timetable of election deadline dates and times, documents needed when filing, candidate voter list, voting machines, challenged voters, duties of watcher/challenger, campaigning, and other information deemed necessary by the Election Board. Time will also be set aside to answer any questions candidates may have. (see A-7 for more information)

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS - SECTION A

EXECUTIVE A2

Message from the
Office of the Principal
and Second Chief



TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National
Council meetings;
Message from the
desk of the Speaker
George Tiger



BUSINESS A5

UPDATE: Creek Nation Tulsa
Casino



HEALTH A6

From the desk
of the Chief Executive
Officer of the Division of
Health



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Headstart now accepting applications



EDUCATION A8

Tribal College:
Employment
opportunities



EXECUTIVE

Second Opinion

Hensci!

The Spring rains are upon us and all plants are flowering and turning green. The earth rejoices. Sorrow is in our midst and we are reminded that death is always in our presence. The Destroyer has claimed another of our people. In a day or so we will be gathered at a grave that could have been avoided. Estakwenayv has put his strangle hold on one of our children.

We once had a story about a creature that lived in the waters and that it had the power to pull a calf a quarter of a mile to its lair and devour it. As children, we were told not to go near certain types of water holes alone because we may fall prey to the stakwenayv. This creature lived in the waters and it had a mental power to drag one into the waters.

The non-Indian heard our story and said this was a myth. Now he brings drugs into our communities and tells us of its mythical powers. Our youth do not believe such a myth until it's too late.

How many of you know of a crack house or have heard of one? We need to alert our authorities of these places and try to regain our children.

The following is an excerpt from a book titled: "a Sacred Path: The Way of the Muscogee Creeks" by Jean Chaudhuri and Joyotpaul Chaudhuri. "Intimate human bonding with nature provides the foundation of a selfhood which extends into the plant and animal world and provides the logic of the Creek prayer for "all my relatives -- those I know and those whom I do not know." The following story illustrates this connection.

A young man, a tustenagee or warrior, found himself alone in nature. He was surrounded by beauty, but nevertheless grew bored and lonely. So he shouted to Ibofanga, "What do all my surroundings have to do with me? How am I related to what I see and who indeed are my relatives? I know that this is divine beauty but what does it have to do with me? As is common in Creek way, he called on the Great Spirit four times. Ibofanga was too busy with his work, so his assistant Hesagedamesse laughed and the earth shook and Hesagedamesse told the young man to go on a vision quest for four days.

The young man proceeded deep into the forest and wondered aloud why exactly he was sent here. For four days, he wandered but nothing happened and he became tired. He began mimicking a chant on relatives to pass the time. Toward the end of the fourth day, he noticed that a plant was knocked over and the dirt at the roots was dry. The young man was puzzled that anyone would knock the plant over and leave it without a life support. He shook the dirt off the roots and the act reminded him of the importance of roots and of his own roots -- his grandfather, his mother, and his historian or storyteller who told all the legends. He remembered many roots.

On the fifth day, he began to look at the plants in detail. He looked at the leaves and remembered the uses of the leaves. He looked at and remembered the uses of the bark, the stems, the pistil -- the good uses and the bad of each. He remembered his medicine man. He grew appreciative of what plants have done for humans.

On the sixth day, as he was walking in his vision quest he suddenly saw a heart-shaped object wiggling in the bushes. It was a white-tailed deer. There were apparently hunters around and arrow came flying. The deer leaped toward the cloud and disappeared. The young man understood the nature of the deer's warning and got out of harm's way and remembered also the role of the deer clan in controlling hunters and maintaining balance and protection of animal life in the forest.

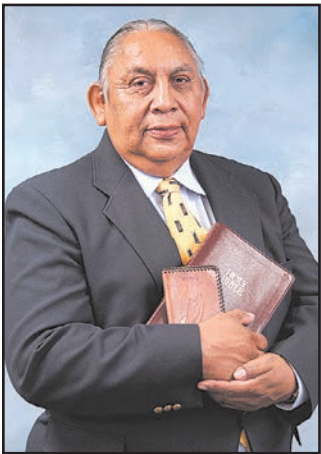
On the seventh day, the young man picked up seeds from fallen flowers and heard an inner voice reminding him of the importance of seeds. The voice told him that Hesagedamesse would awaken all the flowers. The youth blew four times into the seeds and scattered them. In his vision he saw the flowers bloom before his eyes; however, some flowers and plants were trampled. The voice (Hesagedamesse) told him that humans are the major destroyers and that the youth was a trustee and that he must protect the plants and the trees and not destroy the medicine gardens. He was reminded that all four elements -- fire, earth, air and water -- were needed in balance.

The young man turned back to the plants and spoke to them, pointing out that like the plants his roots also touched the water, a source of life. He took the roots of the fallen plant and wet the roots. The plant began to

revive. The youth reflected. "We are like the plants; indeed, we are the plants, we are relatives. Different kinds, each with their nature, but all related. Even form ugliness there can be the emergence of beauty as mushrooms grow from the midst of excretion. Water connects us all, "He ran toward nearby water, speaking and understanding. "I also am a plant and a deer -- reciprocal energy connects us all." He bathed in a clear position of the "living" water and was refreshed and he retired for the night.

On the eighth day, the young man woke up early. He counted the days -- he had been gone for eight rather than four and he had lost his way back. He called on the Breather Giver (Hesagedamesse) and asked for help. He blew into a conch shell four times. The trees weaved and parted for him and there appeared to be a beckoning pathway to crystal clear water and a waterfall with animals and plants around. However, a voice emerged and warned him that out of this peaceful scene Spirit Woman would emerge in a celebration of life --not to be afraid. There was lightning and thunder, which took over the scene, and there was turmoil and the earth trembled. Animals ran wild and even the reptiles were frightened. The young man was overtaken by fear.

A fog enveloped the entire disruptive scene and he began to hear chanting accompanying the fog, and the disruption ended. The chanting continued to move toward him through the fog. Emerging out from the water four times, blessed all the directions, and then chanted again with uplifted hands, "We cannot live without the solar system." He was reminded of the role of thunder and rain, the fusion of the elements, the role of sun and wind, and how Mother Earth would receive it all in a ceremonial dance. The water spirit (wewa fulla/yewvfully) would recycle it all. Sunbeams danced in Spirit Women's hands and in one of her hands raindrops also danced. Spirit Woman clapped her hands four times and the young man heard thunder and saw flashes of lightening. He remembered his grandmother, his father, the storyteller, the medicine man, and their advice. Spirit Woman chanted and spoke again, "All things depend on water -- but be careful of thunder and lightning." Her voice was clear but she was moving away, toward the mountain but I will replenish the earth. I will always come back to you. I am the water spirit and the roots of trees and finally all living things are interrelated and



Second Chief Berryhill

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Lady appreciates help from the Higher Education Department

Editor:

Thanks so much for the Higher Education tribal incentive grant. I assure you it was put to good use.

It was a blessing. It was really special because it was like my great grandmother gave me a graduation gift. She was a full blooded creek and she died way to young (36 years old). But she is still blessing us from the sky through you.

Thanks again great grandmother and Creek Nation and thanks also for the help with tuition last semester!

In Christ

Robin Brothers, Enid

Bacone College appreciates Higher Education

Editor:

I wanted to thank you and your fine staff for your continued support of our Creek students. I think that the more interaction between your office and the students is a very motivating tool as they can see that our people only want the best for them.

Again, thank you for your time, energy and effort.

Sincerely,

Yahola Tiger, Muskogee

Remembering when "red" was once a color

Editor:

In this great country, the population is well represented by people of many colors many people from many walks of life. However, is these days of high definition televisions, our society looks at our country through a black and white screen. We look through "media" induced eyeglasses and see an image of an "ebony and ivory" nation, but what of the other colors? Most notably the shade native to this country's indigenous people. Red represents a proud nation of society not their own, yet who gave their hearts, souls, and inevitably their lives to. These accomplishments seem to be vanishing from the pages of our history books.

As our nation celebrates Jackie

Robinson, a great baseball player who "broke baseball's color barrier," a man who greatly deserves the accolades and respect for what he had to endure to endure to play the game he loved, let's acknowledge what the word "color" means in this society. Non-white.

Does red not represent a color anymore? Have we taken that shade out of the crayola box and disposed of it? What of the American Indian baseball player?

In 1897, Louis Sockalexis from the Penobscot nation signed a major league contract with the Cleveland Spiders, later the Cleveland Indians. Sockalexis was the first American Indian baseball player. As Robinson did in 1947, "Sock" displayed restraint and dignity.

In 1903, Charles Bender (Chippewa) signed with the Philadelphia Athletics, pitched in five world series, led the American league in winning percentage during three seasons, pitched in five world series, led the American league in winning percentage during three seasons, pitched a no hitter in 1910, and was inducted into the national baseball hall of fame in 1953. He's also credited for inventing the "slider". Furthermore, what about Lou Bruce (Mohawk), Ed Summers (Kickapoo), Zack Wheat (Cherokee), Paddy Mayes (Creek), George Howard "Chief" Johnson (Winnebago), Pepper Martin (Osage) and Jess Pike (Creek). These and many more Native Americans played major league baseball from 1897-1947. When you consider the small percentage of Native Americans in the country's population, the accomplishments of these men are even more phenomenal. Yet, who celebrates these men? Who are even aware of them?

So, when you are watching all the well deserved accolades and celebrations of Jackie Robinson on ESPN, remember all the American Indians that played before him and remember red was once a color too.

Sincerely,

Dewayne Chamberlain,

Henryetta.

District Court Filings for May 2007

Marriage:	
Timothy Harkrider and Shannon Prescott	
Civil:	
Phillip Henshaw v. Patrick Steele	Small Claims
Central State Finance v. Kimberly Martin	Small Claims
Bristow Indian Community v. A.D. Ellis, individually and as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Owen Sapulpa, individually and as Chairman of the GOAB, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Public Gaming, Jason Nichols, individually and as OPG Commissioner, and Della Cherry, individually and Director of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Services Division	Verified Complaints
Divorce:	
Patricia Todd v. Dustin Todd	Divorce
Bridgette Leftwich v. Jesus Soto	Divorce
Jonathon Buckley v. Melanie Buckley	Divorce
Christine Kaler v. Ray Fish	Divorce
Protective Orders::	
Tracie Campbell v. James Campbell	Ex-Parte
Patricia Dunn v. Charles Watashe	Ex-Parte
Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Dalton Medley	Trespassing
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Ashley Jones	Ct. 1: Possession of illegal drugs
MCN v. Mark Ralston	Ct. 1: Possession of Firearm while on Tribal Property
	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
	Ct. 1: Aggravated Assault
MCN v. Houston Brown	Trespassing on Tribal Land
MCN v. Charles Watashe	Expired Tag
Traffic:	
MCN v. Eric Adcock	Expired Tag
MCN v. Keith Prest	No License
MCN v. David Tate	No Insurance
MCN v. David Tate	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. David Tate	DUS
MCN v. Clifton Good	No Insurance
MCN v. Tony Neeley	DUS
MCN v. Lisa Ballard	No Insurance
MCN v. Destiny Dannley	DUS
MCN v. Destiny Dannley	No Insurance
MCN v. Natasha Greer	No Insurance
MCN v. Tony Scoggins	DUS
MCN v. Ricky Willis	Expired Tag
MCN v. Ricky Willis	No Insurance
MCN v. Danny Boswell	DUS
MCN v. Danny Boswell	No Insurance
MCN v. Terry Murrell	No Driver License
MCN v. Terry Murrell	No Insurance
MCN v. Tommy Agent	Turning, starting or stopping w/o regard to safety on Tribal Property
	DUS
	No Insurance
	No Driver's License
MCN v. Darien Gray	
MCN v. Anna Everly	
MCN v. Anna Everly	
MCN v. Max McGee	
MCN v. Ronald Woodrow	
MCN v. Skip Kinkade	
MCN v. Dustin Wright	
MCN v. Williams Long	
MCN v. Robert King	
MCN v. Douglas Hightower	
MCN v. Paul Youngpeter	
MCN v. Jammie Teague	
MCN v. David Tate	
MCN v. David Tate	
MCN v. Edward Morris	
MCN v. Edward Morris	
MCN v. Edward Moors	
MCN v. Edward Morris	
MCN v. James Boone	
MCN v. Jenna Powell	
MCN v. Jenna Powell	
MCN v. Jenna Powell	
MCN v. Sheila Christian	
MCN v. Houston Brown	
MCN v. Houston Brown	
MCN v. Mark Ralston	
MCN v. Troy Cool	
MCN v. Kimberly Duncan	
MCN v. Jeffrey McHolland	
MCN v. Michael Bunner	
MCN v. Alilt Alfidranit	
MCN v. Stephen Moore	
MCN v. Stephen Moore	
MCN v. Eugene Borden	
MCN v. Keith Isreal	
MCN v. Norman Stafford	
MCN v. Matthew Crawford	
MCN v. Matthew Crawford	
MCN v. Jones Stanfield	
MCN v. Kristmas Baker	
MCN v. Carol Townsend	
MCN v. Carol Townsend	
MCN v. Carol Townsend	
MCN v. Stephanie Almy	
MCN v. Pamela Hill	
MCN v. Darrell Hopper	
MCN v. Darrell Hopper	
MCN v. Darrell Hopper	
MCN v. Keith Green	
MCN v. Amanda Hall	
MCN v. Nathan Roach	
MCN v. Gary Nelson	
MCN v. Gary Nelson	
MCN v. Cherish Pierce	
MCN v. Joshua Alexander	
MCN v. Joshua Alexander	
MCN v. Joshua Alexander	
MCN v. Joshua Alexander	
Disorderly Conduct	
No Drivers License	
Expired Tag	
No Insurance	
No Insurance	
No Insurance	
No Drivers License	
Expired Tag	
Duties in the Event of an Accident	
No Drivers License	
DUS	
No Insurance	
DUS	
No Insurance	
Expired Tag	
Disorderly Conduct	
DUS	
No Insurance	
Reckless Driving	
DUS	
Disorderly Conduct	
Poss. of Alcohol on Tribal Property	
Driving under Revocation	
Expired Tag	
Expired Tag	
Possession of Alcohol Tribal Land	
Expired Tag	
DUS	
No Insurance	
Disorderly Conduct	
Disorderly Conduct	
Disorderly Conduct	
DUS	
No D.L.	
NO Insurance	
Expired Tag	
No DL	
Disorderly Conduct	
No Insurance	
Expired Tag	
DUS	
Public Intoxication	
Disorderly Conduct	
Expired Tag	
DUS	
No Insurance	
Expired Tag	
Expired Tag	
DUS	
No Insurance	
DUS	
No Insurance	
DUS	
Possession of Loaded Fire arm on Tribal Land	
No Insurance	
No D.L.	

Muscogee Nation

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of the Speaker

HE(N)SCI !!!

The May monthly session of the National Council consisted of thirty-three agenda items. All were addressed and all received a consensus unanimous vote with the exception of one, which received one abstention, otherwise it would have been a historic vote for a session.

I've often wondered about the most prominent and historic Indian policies and the thought process of how they became a reality. I am amazed to see the last three letters of important Indian policies ending in the letters I-O-N. Sometimes, I think the federal officials elected or otherwise, often asked the ques-



Tiger

tion "do we want Indians or not?"

First, the initial effort of an Indian policy was TERMINATION. Historically, tribal nations were astute viable working governments before any Anglo or other forms of governments ever existed in this country. It is well known; the form or concept of government with this country of Executive, Legislative and Judicial came from existing Tribal governments. Yet, because of the need of land and resources offered by "the new country" it was decided something must be done with the Indians. Congress by legislation dictated Indian people and its governments must no longer exist. Our way of life, government and most important our dignity was challenged by removal away from our homelands to unfamiliar new territories. The Trail of Tears was to have been the trail to Termination as well.

Next, early INDIAN EDUCATION! In order for Indians to assimilate

into the major society it was decided to establish Indian boarding schools. The goal was teach them to exist in society, more importantly, to get the Indian out of them. These schools were in far away locations with the first priority being to make them "white" by cutting hair and putting them in "civilized" clothing. Students weren't allowed to practice their traditions, culture and talk their language. Cultural termination through early Indian education.

INDIAN RELOCATION in the 1950's was to allow Indian people to go to large urban locations and work. The Bureau of Indian Affairs recruited many to go to Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Wichita, and etc; Many went, many stayed and many came back. To take someone from a comfortable cultural setting into a large urban setting was a shock. The enticement was jobs were plentiful and BIA provided funds to help get "you on your feet". In

some cases, promises of the jobs weren't fulfilled and a shortage of funds to help was a major disappointment. Families "pitched in" after their first paycheck to return home. Those that stayed in some locations were instrumental in establishing Indian communities within the urban setting. Indian churches, clinics and centers were the results of those who saw the need to stay and make a difference in those large cities.

INDIAN SELF DETERMINATION in the 1970's is and continues to be the landmark policy for Indian people. With the Self Determination Act, Indian policies came full circle. Once again we could determine our own destiny. Through Congress the federal government recognized the importance for tribal governments to exist. In the mid 70's the American Indian Policy Review Commission reported on the importance of tribes and their policies. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was

a strong contributor in the Commission's final report to Congress. Indian leaders were raising their voices to anyone and everyone about needs in health care, housing, education and economic development. Congress began listening and funds were being appropriated to address those needs in Indian country.

Indian Self Determination brought new challenges. Whatever the challenges tribal governments have learned to accept and address accordingly.

Today, I see the ION at the end of these policies standing for Impact of Nations. From Termination, early Indian Education, Relocation and Self-determination, we continue and are still a proud race of people. We survived termination. We learned in boarding schools. We worked and contributed in urban America. We are survivors. We are Muscogee!

Thank you for your words of encouragement and until next month MVTO!

Letter from the Second Speaker

The Second Speaker is elected by the peers of the National Council, as is the Speaker. In the absence of the Speaker, the Second Speaker shall assume responsibilities, including conducting the National Council meetings, assigning legislation to Standing Committees (Business & Governmental, Tribal Affairs, Community Services & Cultural and Human Development) and other duties pertaining to the operation of the National Council Office.

Currently, I am serving as Chairman to the Business and Governmental Com-



Barnett

mittee, a committee that has jurisdiction over special appropriations, budgets for various departments and divisions within the Executive Branch and Judicial Branch. This entails addressing any problems or legislation pertaining to the areas of Health, Education and Welfare of the citizens.

National Council Representatives are assigned to select Committees: Fact-Finding and Investigation Committee, Constitution Commission Committee and Internal Affairs Committee. The caucus of the various districts determines what committees each representative shall serve on the Select Committee as mentioned above.

The Tulsa Casino Oversight Committee is a sub-committee of the National Council. The full Council approves all additional sub-committees that involve council representatives and determine who shall

serve on that particular sub-committee.

During this session, the National Council introduced and enacted legislation to increase the revenues to better assist the citizens with Contract Health Services, Tribal Grants for Higher Education and the Employment and Training Program to name a few.

Council representatives assist programs within their jurisdictions to provide a quality service to citizens. We do this by either introducing legislation or sponsoring legislation that is submitted to the National Council by the Executive Branch, Judicial Branch or at the request of citizens, communities, churches, ceremonial grounds and various entities within the Nation and outside the Nation. The National Council and the Executive Branch have established various funding sources for those purposes.

I encourage you to contact your council representative if you have any questions, concerns or inquiring about tribal assistance. We want to know what's on your mind, and we can only help you if you contact us. Representatives phone numbers and e-mail addresses are always available to you. Also, requests may move more quickly if directed to your district representatives. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the other district representatives.

Regardless of some of the negativity you may hear or despite the differences we may have as a Tribal government, we as citizens of the Muscogee Nation have much to be thankful for. As in all governmental agencies, you may think things don't happen fast enough, but as a Nation, we do try to expedite all concerns as soon as possible. We may not always have things go our way, but if democracy prevails that should be OK

too. But as people, we sure would like things to always be in our favor. In the future, we will see new buildings throughout the complex and on other tribal properties that we hope you will be proud of.

When the Legislative and Executive Branch come together, we see good things happen. Just because we don't always agree it doesn't necessarily mean that the Nation will not continue services, it simply means that democracy is at work. Sometimes we have to take a step back and re-address various projects, but we always hope it's to remedy problems or concerns that have been identified.

We may not be able to solve all your concerns, but we hope we are able to assist you in some manner. May the Creator bless you and your families and continue to bless this Nation.

Roger Barnett, Second Speaker

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 31, REGULAR SESSION.

MARCH. 31, REGULAR SESSION

EXCUSED ABSENTS WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **TOM PICKERING** AND **LARRY BIBLE**.

VETO MESSAGE:

- VETO (12-12-0) NCA 07-046, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT INDN'S LIST IN ADVOCATING FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND FOR NATIVE AMERICANS AS A WHOLE, RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: **ANTHONY NOTARO, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LaGRONE, BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- FAILED (11-12-0) TR 07-018, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH GROUP TO DEVELOP AND MANAGE GIVE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FUNERAL;

VOTING NO WERE: **ANTHONY NOTARO, THOMAS McINTOSH, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, JAMES JENNINGS, SYVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS, AND JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-022, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THREE (3) WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. BUSINESS EDITION CUSTOMER AGREEMENTS FOR INTERNET SERVICE TO THE DUSTIN, HANNA AND OKFUSKEE CHARTERED INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTERS, SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-023, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN OIL AND GAS MINING LEASE - TRIBAL INDIAN LANDS ON 440.60 ACRES OF TRIBAL TRUST PROPERTY LOCATED IN McINTOSH COUNTY, SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-026, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND ASBESTOS HANDLERS, INCORPORATED, SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-027, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **LOUIS A. HICKS** TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS;

- APPROVED (14-9-0) TR 07-029, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO PROCEED IN DISTRICT COURT IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO SEEK A NUISANCE ACTION AGAINST A SEX OFFENDER WHO LIVES IN CREEK COUNTY NEAR THE SAPULPA CHILD CARE CENTER;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, EDDIE LaGRONE, BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, THOMAS YAHOLA, RONALD CLEGHORN, AND SAM ALEXANDER;**

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-030, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING HUD'S USE OF THE 2000 CENSUS MULTI RACE CATEGORY IN THE INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT NEEDS FORMULA ALLOCATION, SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-031, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HOUSING "ELIGIBILITY, ADMISSIONS AND OCCUPANCY POLICY" SPONSOR: EDDIE

LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-032, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HOUSING "PAYMENTS AND RENTS POLICY", SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-033, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HOUSING DIVISION TO AMEND THE MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY, SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;

- FAILED (8-14-1) TR 07-034, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RELINQUISHING TRIBAL (GOAB) CONTROL OF THE DUCK CREEK CASINO TO THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY, SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ANTHONY NOTARO, THOMAS McINTOSH, PETE BEAVER, KEEPER JOHNSON, BO JOHNSON, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL, AND JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-035, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DESIGNATING, ASSIGNING AND ESTABLISHING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, OWNED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, HELD IN TRUST BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, LOCATED IN MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA FOR THE MUSCOGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY TO ESTABLISH A DEDICATED COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE BENEFIT OF ITS COMMUNITY MEMBERS, SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-036, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HOUSING DIVISION TO AMEND THE REHABILITATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES POLICY, SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;

- APPROVED (21-0-2) TR 07-037, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NOMINATING **LAURA LEA HARJO** TO SERVE AS MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

ABSTAIN WERE: **DUKE HARJO** AND **BO JOHNSON;**

- APPROVED (17-6-0) TR 07-038, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO TRACK SEX OFFENDERS LIVING ON MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION INDIAN COUNTRY, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LaGRONE, BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, AND SAM ALEXANDER;**

REPRESENTATIVE **WILLITS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-039, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RECOGNIZING THE PRIMARY AUTHORITY OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF OVER THE SPECIAL SERVICES ATTORNEY AGREEMENT WITH HOBBS, STRAUS, DEAN & WALKER, L.L.P. AND TERMINATING THE AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL,

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-042, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING **SUZAN SHOWN HARJO** TO REPRESENT THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AT THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE HEARINGS ON THE DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED NATIVE AMERICAN HUMAN REMAINS, FUNERARY OBJECTS, SACRED OBJECTS AND OBJECTS OF CULTURAL PATRIMONY ON APRIL 18-20, 207 IN WASHINGTON D.C., SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-003, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR LEGAL COUNSEL, SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING (\$40,000.00);

- APPROVED (13-10-0) NCA 07-017, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE

CONSTRUCTION OF A WORSHIP BUILDING FOR NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH IN HENRYETTA, OK, SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR: R. BARNETT (\$86,689.31);

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, BO JOHNSON, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, SHIRLENE ADE, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS, AND JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-024, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SUMMER WORK PROGRAM, SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING; CO-SPONSOR(S): J. JENNINGS; D. HARJO; R. BERRYHILL; K. JOHNSON; T. YAHOLA; R. JONES (\$457,772.00);

- APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA 07-044, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE AMERICAN INDIAN ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME, SPONSOR: GEORGE TIGER (\$2,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **CHERRAH QUIETT;**

- APPROVED (21-2-0) NCA 07-059, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-034 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO VARIOUS CREEK CHURCHES FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) 12-PASSENGER VANS AND THREE (3) 15-PASSENGER VANS) SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR(S): K. JOHNSON; S. ALEXANDER; E. LaGRONE;

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-060, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ARBEKA INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FELLOWSHIP HALL, SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$84,500.00);

- APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-064, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-062 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE

SEE NATIONAL COUNCIL - A 4

LEGISLATIVE

National Council

continued from A3

(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE TO OFFSET THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH PROVIDING WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES TO EIGHTY (80) INDIAN HOMES LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK NATION), SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA; CO-SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$137,000.00);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-065, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO HELP SPONSOR THE AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION (AISA) CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (CAC), SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE (\$800.00);

• APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA 07-066, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO COURTNEY CHEYANNE MCCOLLUM TO ATTEND THE PRE-TEEN AMERICA SCHOLARSHIP AND RECOGNITION PROGRAM,

VOTING NO WERE: **CHERRAH QUIETT**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-2-0) NCA 07-067, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE BRISTOW INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$1,695,496.52);

VOTING NO WERE: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-068, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT - MVSKEKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM FOR A “SUMMER LANGUAGE IMMERSION CAMP” SPONSOR: RICHARD BERRYHILL (\$27,386.05);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (18-5-0) NCA 07-069, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE REVISION TO THE 2004 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AND REPEALING NCA 06-093 (REVISION OF THE 2002 IHP) SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: LENA WIND;

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LaGRONE**, **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, **THOMAS YAHOLA**, **SHIRLENE ADE**, AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-070, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TEUCHEE LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PROJECT TO ASSIST WITH FUNDING A DAILY IMMERSION PROGRAM, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO (\$40,000.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS YAHOLA** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-071, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM, SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-072, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF TEN (10%) FOR THE HOUSING MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HOUSING DIVISION, SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-073, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE FIFTH ANNUAL PINK PARTY, AN ANNUAL HEALTH EDUCATION ACTIVITY OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS, SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$10,200.00);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-074, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 5,\$2-201,

“DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS” AND \$2-202, “RELEASE OF FUNDS” TO AMEND THE AMOUNT OF GREEN CORN CEREMONIAL ASSISTANCE, SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA; CO-SPONSOR(S): G. TIGER; B. JOHNSON; T. PICKERING (\$80,000.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (20-2-0) NCA 07-075, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 16 \$3-106, REGARDING RETENTION OF FILES BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE** AND **BO JOHNSON**;

• APPROVED (22-0-1) NCA 07-076, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 15-PASSENGER VAN, SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. CALDWELL; T. YAHOLA (\$23,165.00);

ABSTAIN WERE: **ROBERT JONES**;

REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-077, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO MANY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS TO ITS FACILITIES AND TO ASSIST WITH ITS ANNUAL SINGING EVENT, SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. CALDWELL; T. YAHOLA (\$18,627.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-079, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ALABAMA INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FELLOWSHIP HALL SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$20,000.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-080, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO HUTCHE CHUPPA INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH TO ASSIST WITH EXPENSES OF 25 TRIBAL CITIZENS WHO WILL GIVE A PRESENTATION OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) HYMNS AT YALE UNIVERSITY IN HEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT ON APRIL 17, 2007, SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$2,500.00);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-081, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO MONTESOMA BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 12-PASSENGER VAN, SPONSOR: LENA WIND; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$16,999.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (13-9-0), NCA 07-082, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PORTER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS TO ASSIST WITH PURCHASING PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, SPONSOR: JOHNNIE GREENE; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; P. BEAVER; R. BERRYHILL (\$30,000.00);

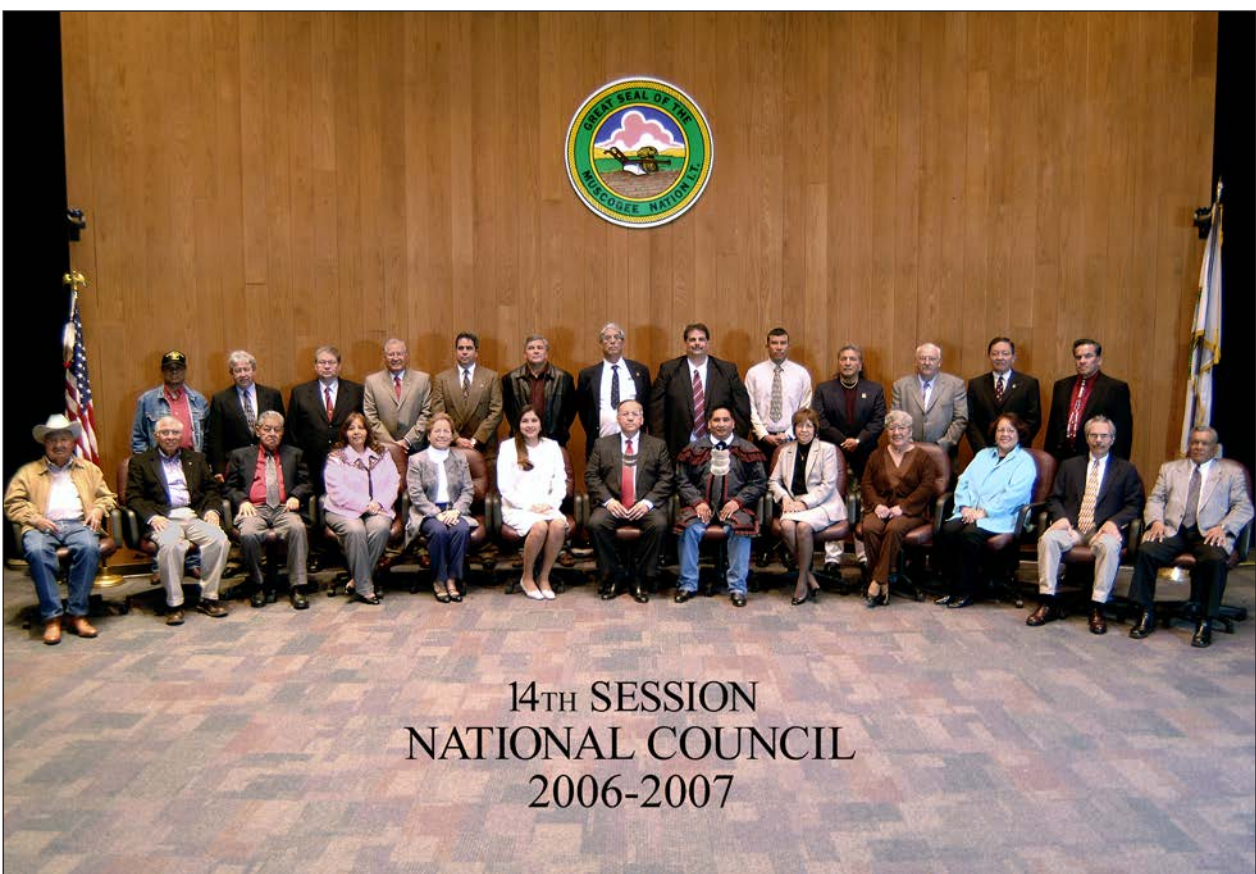
VOTING NO WERE: **TRAVIS SCOTT**, **BILL FIFE**, **ROBERT JONES**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JEFF FIFE**, **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, **CHERRAH QUIETT**, **RON CLEGHORN**, AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

• FAILED (9-14-0) NCA 07-083, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 21, \$4-102 (F), “STIPENDS/MILEAGE” TO ADJUST STIPEND RATES, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO**, **ROGER BARNETT**, **LENA WIND**, **ROBERT JONES**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JEFF FIFE**, **JAMES JENNINGS**, **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, **THOMAS YAHOLA**, **SHIRLENE ADE**, **CHERRAH QUIETT**, **PAULA WILLITS**, **RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **JOHNNIE GREENE** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (20-2-0) NCA



07-084, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION THAT WILL PARTIALLY FUND THE TOBACCO RETAILERS ALLIANCE (T.R.A.) CONTRIBUTION TOWARD THE HIRING OF A SPECIALIZED CONSULTANT WHO WILL MONITOR LEGISLATIVE BILLS AND LOBBY ELECTED OFFICIALS AT THE STATE CAPITOL IN OKLAHOMA CITY REGARDING TRIBALLY-RELATED TOBACCO ISSUES, SPONSORS: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. CLEGHORN; E. LaGRONE; J. FIFE; G. TIGER; D. HARJO (\$10,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES** AND **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

REPRESENTATIVE **JOHNNIE GREENE** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (21-1-0) NCA 07-085, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) LANGUAGE PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA TO HELP DEFRAY COSTS OF THE 2007 CREEK SINGING EVENT, SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$1,500.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **BO JOHNSON**;

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS YAHOLA** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (21-1-0) NCA 07-086, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 1ST ANNUAL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENS DIABETES AWARENESS SUMMIT, SPONSOR: SYLVANNA CALDWELL; CO-SPONSOR(S): C. QUIETT; P. WILLITS; J. GREENE; L. WIND; S. ADE; B. JOHNSON; P. BEAVER; D. HARJO (\$35,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **SAM ALEXANDER**;

REPRESENTATIVES **SHIRLENE ADE** AND **DUKE HARJO** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (18-2-1) NCA 07-087, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR ARBEKA CEREMONIAL GROUND, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR(S): A. NOTARO; B. FIFE; J. JENNINGS; J. FIFE (\$215,160.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **THOMAS YAHOLA**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-089, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKFUSKEE INDIAN COMMUNITY, SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$18,900.00);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-2-0) NCA 07-087, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH LANGUAGE FIARDS, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$1,500.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-090, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 5th ANNUAL OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH LANGUAGE

FAIRS

SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$1,500.00);

• APPROVED (22-0-1) NCA 07-091, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMBASSADOR, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$15,000.00);

ABSTAIN WERE: **DUKE HARJO**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-092, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ALLOW FOUR (4) MEMBERS OF THE SAPULPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TO ATTEND THE GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP AT OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY-OKC, APRIL 30-MAY 2, 2007, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$2,480.63);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-093, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 18, \$2-501 TO EXPAND THE POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE;

• FAILED (11-12-0) NCA 07-094, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 21\$2-102 “APPOINTMENT OF TERM OF OFFICE” TO CLARIFY THE PUBLIC GAMING COMMISSIONER LAW, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

VOTING NO WERE: **ANTHONY NOTARO**, **THOMAS McINTOSH**, **PETE BEAVER**, **TRAVIS SCOTT**, **LENA WIND**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **BO JOHNSON**, **JAMES JENNINGS**, **THOMAS YAHOLA**, **CHERRAH QUIETT**, **RON CLEGHORN**, AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-095, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION IN SUPPORT OF THE 16 REMAINING CEREMONIAL GROUNDS AND AMENDING TITLE 5 \$1-105 TO ADD A SUBSECTION A. 1, SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. PICKERING; G. TIGER; B. JOHNSON; A. NOTARO; J. FIFE.

APRIL 26, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **GEORGE TIGER** WAS EXCUSED; **TOM PICKERING**, **BO JOHNSON**, **LARRY BIBLE** WAS EXCUSED, AND **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

REPRESENTATIVES **ROBERT JONES** EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION. REPRESENTATIVE **RICHARD BERRYHILL** WILL BE LATE.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION;

REPRESENTATIVES: **TOM PICKERING**, **CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL** ARRIVED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION;

• APPROVED TO POSTPONED (19-0-0) TR 07-015, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE PROJECT BUDGET FOR THE NEW CREEK NATION TULSA CASINO, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT.

APRIL 28, QUARTERLY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT WERE: **LENA WIND** WAS EXCUSED, **BO JOHNSON** WAS EXCUSED AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

PRINCIPAL CHIEF, A.D. ELLIS PRESENTED THE STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-043, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO FILE A CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST PARADA CABLE AND ANY OTHER NECESSARY PARTIES TO RECOVER DAMAGES INCURRED WHEN A GAS LEAK FORCED TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF THE CREEK NATION TULSA CASINO, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) TR-044, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION PROVIDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TRIBAL COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION BUILDING THROUGH HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON TRIBAL LANDS, SPONSOR: RICHARD BERRYHILL; CO-SPONSOR: JOHNNIE GREENE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) TR 07-045, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION COMMITTING TEN ACRES OF TRIBAL LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A TRIBAL LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A TRIBAL COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITY TO SERVE TRIBAL CITIZENS THROUGH THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION, SPONSOR: RICHARD BERRYHILL; CO-SPONSOR: JOHNNIE GREENE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-047, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE RETURN OF FORT RENO TO THE CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA, SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-048, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO USE A PORTION OF THE GAMING REVENUE DISTRIBUTION ALLOCATED TO DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY TO PAY FOR HALF OF THE COST FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE DUCK CREEK CASINO EXPANSION PROJECT, SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS;

• APPROVED (21-0-1) TR 07-050, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN WILMORITE AND THE CUNNINGHAM GROUP, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) NCA 07-001, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 37, CHAPTER THREE, “EMPLOYEES”, TO ESTABLISH NEW SUBCHAPTER 9 ESTABLISHING A MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-097, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A

UPDATE: Tulsa Casino Construction

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

TULSA — Construction on the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino continues as an extension to the existing tribal casino gaming center located on 81st and Riverside in Tulsa.

Jerry Lawson, who serves as the construction representative for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation talks about how the grand project is continuing. “I think its progressing very well, in fact, we’ve got some of the construction ahead of schedule,” said Lawson. “The weather has impacted us a little bit, but in spite of the weather, we are still close to schedule overall.”

Lawson was also pleased with the hard work and extra effort the construction crew has put into the project. “I’m really pleased with how

construction is going right now,” said Lawson. “There are times we are out here at 5 a.m. laying concrete and sometimes we’re out here when the sun is going down too.”

Lawson recalls the area being cleared beginning in August of last year. The area was only full of dense woods and debris then. Now fast forward to the present with framework of the two-story building high in the air and overlooking the Arkansas River.

Lawson describes the unique additions, “It’s going to be a mega-casino,” says Lawson, “I estimate 2,500 to 3,000 gaming machines to be installed. It will also include nice dining facilities, a mezzanine, and an underground parking garage for all the customers.”

Plans for the completion of the site is planned for July of 2008.

With growth already happening in South Tulsa, Lawson only sees the Casino as adding even more, “It’s really going to dress up this part of Tulsa.”

Other areas of the South Tulsa have also seen expansion as shops and housing editions have been completed. Near the 81st and Riverside area. Also a factor is the city of Jenks which lies just south of the casino on the opposite side of the Arkansas river. Jenks has also seen business growth with a riverwalk that contains various restaurants as well as an aquarium.

The additions to the south Tulsa area are expected to only make the area even more of a tourist attraction.

According to Lawson, over 90 people are currently employed on the construction site.



Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise

MNBE Techonology Services wins projects at Union Public Schools and Creek Nation Housing

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Technology Services Division Manager BJ Waggnor has announced new projects won by competitive bidding. Technology Services was awarded a contract with Creek Nation Housing Authority to install state of the art surveillance systems at Okemah Housing, Eufaula Hilltop, Eufaula McIntosh and Checotah Housing that will have the capability to do remote viewing.



the contract working under the Creek Health Services Division and Community Health Representatives (CHR) Program for the Medical Alert System that will start June 4th. MNBE will install

a receiving station at Creek Nation Light-horse Headquarters and install medical alert systems in the homes of Creek Senior Citizens that qualify through the CHR Program.

MNBE Technology Services was the low bidder on a Surveillance Project for Union Intermediate school in Tulsa and just received

the contract to install 84 cameras and an American Dynamics Matrix. This contract will start June 4th. “We are excited about the Union Intermediate School Project,” said Waggnor. “Union is one of the premier school systems in the State of Oklahoma.”

MNBE Technology Services is the apparent low bidder on a surveillance project for OSU-Tulsa and are waiting on the contract to install 42 cameras and 3 Kodicom DVRs.

MNBE Technology Services is also currently working on a contract for the Tulsa Casino I.T. room rewire. MNBE is installing new cat-6 wire and cat-6 patch panels for their gaming operations.

BUSINESSNOTES

Trade & Commerce Authority hosted a grand opening

OKMULGEE — On May 23 The Trade & Commerce Authority hosted the Grand Opening of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee Travel Plaza.

Folks were driving miles to get in on the one-day gasoline price of \$2.99 per gallon. The Travel Plaza will continue to have low gasoline prices. In addition have a new program with Sinclair that will allow our customers to get an additional \$.05 Cent discount on gas when they use the Sinclair Gift Card.

The Sinclair gift card can be

purchased inside of the Okmulgee travel plaza. The cost of the card is \$0.50, however you will receive \$0.05 per gallon.

We have also made some changes inside the store. We hope to make it a better shopping experience for our customers.

The general manager for both travel plazas is Stephen Hegdale. He has been with the Trade & Commerce Authority board since November 15, 2006.

The Trade & Commerce Authority operating two travel plazas, they are located in Okmulgee and in Muskogee.



National Council

continued from A4

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HEALTH SYSTEM THAT WILL SUPPLEMENT THE CURRENT AMOUNT OF FUNDING ALLOCATED TO THE CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM, SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; E. LaGRONE; T. SCOTT; J. FIFE; B. JOHNSON; P. WILLITS; S. CALDWELL (\$500,000.00);

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-100, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA WARRIORS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MID-AMERICA YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE, SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA (\$990.00);

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-101, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION MUSEUM, CULTURAL CENTER AND ARCHIVES REVOLVING FUND AND A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER ARCHIVES DEVELOPMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPING, DESIGNING, IMPLEMENTING AND CONSTRUCTING A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED MUSEUM, CULTURAL CENTER AND REPOSITORY FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS, SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO; CO-SPONSOR(S): E. LaGRONE, P. BEAVER (\$250,000.00);

• APPROVED (16-6-0) NCA 07-103, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SAPULPA PUBLIC SCHOOLS INDIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR THE NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION POW WOW, SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO (\$2,500.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, THOMAS YAHOLA, RON CLEGHORN, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE;**

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-

0-0) NCA 07-104, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 19 TO INCREASE THE ELECTION BOARD STIPEND AND TO ALLOW CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE TO TAKE LEAVE FROM EMPLOYMENT TO RUN FOR OFFICE, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-105, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ADDING A PRECINCT TO THE OKMULGEE DISTRICT TO BE LOCATED AT THE TWIN HILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE;

• APPROVED (16-6-0) NCA 07-106, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LORD’S HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN, SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO (\$18,989.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE;**

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-107, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE FOR CODIFICATION AS TITLE 33, “UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) NCA 07-108, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, CODIFYING SUCH LAW IN TITLE 16, “EXECUTIVE BRANCH” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND APPROPRIATION FUNDS FOR THE CREATION OF THIS OFFICE, SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO (\$151,699.23);

• APPROVED (21-0-1) NCA 07-109, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL AP-

PROPRIATION TO LAMAR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE 13 HAND-HELD RADIOS, SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. YAHOLA; S. CALDWELL (\$7,410.00);

ABSTAIN WERE: **ROBERT JONES;**

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-110, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE DUCK CREEK CASINO EXPANSION PROJECT, SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$406,187.33);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (18-4-0) NCA 07-111, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO HASKELL INDIAN MEN’S FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE TO HELP SPONSOR THE 13TH ANNUAL TOURNAMENT, SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: GEORGE TIGER (\$1,500.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE AND THOMAS YAHOLA;**

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-112, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING A BUSINESS CORPORATION ACT (CH.1), LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ACT (CH.2), PARTNERSHIP ACT (CH. 3) AND LIMITED PARTNERSHIP ACT (CH. 4) IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR COMMERCE WITHIN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND REPEALING NCA 92-112 AND NCA 92-191, PREVIOUSLY CODIFIED AS MCNCA TITLE 3, CHAPTERS 1 AND 2, SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO;

• APPROVED (20-2-0) NCA 07-113, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE NORTHEAST DISTRICT SENIOR METHODIST ORGANIZATION FOR THE ANNUAL SENIOR METHODIST CAMP MEETING, SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$1,500.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPEE JOHNSON AND RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

• APPROVED (21-1-0) NCA 07-114, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST OKLAHOMA INDIAN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE TO HOST THE 2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE OKLAHOMA INDIAN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN HONOR OF **HARRY LONG**, SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR(S): P. WILLITS; J. JENNINGS; J. GREENE (\$10,800.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-115, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGAL SERVICES COURT COST & PUBLICATION FEE REVOLVING FUND, SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO (\$4,411.25);

• APPROVED (20-2-0) NCA 07-116, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO EUCHEE LANGUAGE PROJECT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN, SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO (\$22,775.00);

• RETURN TO COMMITTEE (21-1-0) NCA 07-117, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN ANNUAL APPROPRIATION TO THE “**HARRY LONG LIVING TREASURE FUND**” OF BACONE COLLEGE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENTS, SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$50,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL;**

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-118, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)

NATION AMENDING NCA 07-004 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL EMERGENCY ALARM SYSTEMS FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE), SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. SCOTT; B. JOHNSON; S. CALDWELL, J. GREENE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) NCA 07-120, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE 2007 JUNIOR NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR THREE MEMBERS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. YAHOLA; S. CALDWELL (\$8,310.00).

MAY. 8, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED WERE: **PETE BEAVER, CHERRAH QUETT AND THOMAS YAHOLA;**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING THE STATUS OF TULSA CASINO DEVELOPMENT;

REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPEE JOHNSON** LEFT DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION;

REPRESENTATIVE **DUKE HARJO** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (17-1-0) TO GIVE AUTHORIZATION TO OUR LEGAL COUNSEL TO MEET WITH PRINCIPAL CHIEF’S LEGAL COUNSEL;

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE**

Legal Notices

continued from A2

MCN v. Joshua Alexander
MCN v. Wesley Gordon
MCN v. Bradley Talley
MCN v. Luis Lopez
MCN v. Luis Lopez
MCN v. Richard Crockett
MCN v. Shelli Rice
MCN v. Shelli Rice

Expired Tag
No Insurance
Driving Under Suspension
Driving Under Suspension
No Insurance
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
Driving Under Suspension

HEALTH

From the Desk of the CEO
Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted by Judy Aaron, Chief Executive Officer

On behalf of the employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I would like to take the time express our gratitude for the patients of the Health System allowing us to serve you. The Health System is in a time of great anticipation. Our goals include being able to serve our patients in a timely and patient friendly manner, and offering a Health System focused on quality patient care.

In the past few months our Health System has received funding from Tribal revenue to increase our Contract Health Service funds to serve the Creek Citizens in the amount of approximately \$4.2 million. In addition the Health System will begin a Denture Program for Creek Citizens at our Koweta loca-



Judy Aaron

tion in the next 6 to 8 months. Our Health System appreciates the efforts of our National Council and the Executive Office in assisting us in meeting the health care needs of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens. A long range goal for the Health System is to develop a Master Facility Plan to build new facilities to create a caring environment for our patients, and adequate space for staff and new services. The first phase will be the construction of a Dental clinic at the Creek Nation Community Hospital location. Plans are currently being developed for the Dental Clinic with construction to start later in the Summer of 2007.

The Health System was recently

the recipient of Rural Health Network grant developed to coordinate services with the VA Health System to better assist our Veterans in obtaining medical care. The Creek Nation Community Hospital will be implementing this grant in the next few months. Our goal is to begin to network with other Health Care systems to meet the needs of our patients in a cost effective manner.

As the new CEO of the Health System it has been a great joy to be able to serve our Creek people and others who access our Health System. As I have visited the communities I appreciate the input and concerns expressed by patients of the Health System. Please express your thoughts about the Health System to our Administrators and employees so we can continue to improve the manner in which we serve you. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude for our dedicated staff members who have strived to provide excellent patient care.

DOCTOR's NOTE

Meningitis and Meningococcal Disease

Submitted by Zack Anderson MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer

Meningitis is an infection of fluid surrounding the brain and the spinal cord. It is sometimes referred to as "spinal meningitis". Meningitis can be caused by a viral or bacterial infection. Knowing whether meningitis is caused by a virus or bacterium is important because the illness may be more severe in a bacterial case and the treatment will be different than if it is caused by a virus. The focus of this article is on a specific type of disease called meningococcal disease caused by a bacterium.



Zack Anderson

less than one year of age, in people with certain medical conditions and in freshman students who reside in college dormitories. Meningococcal disease is spread through the exchange of respiratory droplets and throat secretions but it is not as contagious as the common cold or flu.

In order for this disease to spread to others, there must be close, prolonged contact. It is not spread by casual contact or by breathing the air where a person with meningococcal disease has been. Contact investigation is usually led by the local health department and close contacts that are identified as being "at risk" are usually given preventive antibiotics which may be oral or by injection.

The symptoms can develop over several hours or days. The most common symptoms are high fever, headache and stiff neck. Other symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, discomfort from bright lights, confusion, sleepiness and a rash that has a "blood blister" appearance. In small infants, the symptoms of fever, headache and neck stiffness may be absent or difficult to detect. They may just appear slow with decreased activity, irritable, vomiting and feeding poorly. From time of exposure to development of disease can take from 2-10 days with the average

being three to four days.

Early diagnosis and treatment are very important. If symptoms occur, the patient should see a doctor immediately. The diagnosis is usually made by examination of a sample of spinal fluid to determine if there are bacteria causing the symptoms. If bacteria are identified, then the patient will be given the appropriate antibiotics to eliminate the bacteria. Patients with meningococcal disease can be very ill and frequently require hospitalization. Early treatment is essential. If meningococcal disease is suspected—especially if there has been known exposure—seek medical evaluation immediately.

There is a vaccine available now for children as young as 11-12 years of age. Meningococcal vaccine cannot prevent all types of the disease but it will help protect against the most common types in the United States. The vaccine works well and will protect about 90% of those who receive it. About half the people receiving the vaccine may have side effects such as redness or pain at the injection site but this usually only lasts 1-2 days. A small percentage of people may develop a fever.

If you have questions about meningococcal disease or would like to find out more information about the MCV4 (meningococcal) vaccines, you may contact the public health nurses at the clinics, the local county health department or you can find out more information at www.cdc.gov.

HEALTHNOTES
Give Your Routine a Makeover

MCN Diabetes Program: Kimberlee Little Eufaula Exercise Programs Manager

EUFAULA — Have you ever noticed that after only a few months on your exercise program, you suddenly stop seeing results? This is often referred to as hitting a "plateau". I've had many people question me, especially from our Tribal Walking Program Nene Hvkoce, about what they can do to their routine to get over the plateau. First we need to know what makes up a good exercise routine. Creating an exercise routine that keeps your body healthy should include the following:

1. For heart health and energy level: Aerobic or fitness activities that increase your breathing and heart rate.
2. For staying flexible: Flexibility or stretching exercises
3. For building or staying strong: Strength-building exercises

After these have been included you should take a good look at your routine. The American Council on Exercise recommends that you continually update your routine. The human body is an amazing piece of machinery and will adjust to any exercise routine over time. You can fool your body into continuing to progress by changing your exercise routine every six weeks or so. According to Cooper Institute, there are several ways to change your routine:

Change the frequency – add a day to your workout (aim for 5-7 days/wk)

Change the intensity or how hard

you exercise - examples can include adding more weight or band resistance to your strength building exercises, adding a slight increase to the incline of your walking routine, pick up the pace, or even walking longer distance in the same amount of time. Do this slowly and carefully as not to overdo it. Listen to your body!

Change the amount of time you're exercising - try adding 1-2 minutes per week to your current exercise time (aim for goal of 30 min 5-7 days/wk)

Change the type of activity add strength training, try cross training (cycling, swimming, and walking), or try a new sport with your family.

If you have diabetes, it is important to check your blood sugars before and after exercise to ensure that you are exercising at a safe level. Always consult with your physician if you experiencing anything abnormal. Always remember when making adjustments to your routine to focus on only one change at a time. Too many changes may make the routine difficult which could cause you to get discouraged and quit or even become injured.

Keeping track of your workouts with a logbook can help you determine how well you are doing and when you need to make changes to your routine. Good Luck! "If you have a body, you are an athlete"~ Bill Bowerman, Co-founder of NIKE.

A few words from the dietician on FIBER

Fiber is for the old folks, right? WRONG! It is important for people of all ages to get enough fiber in their diet. Unfortunately, according to the American Dietetic Association, most Americans only get about half of the fiber they need. In Oklahoma 91% of the population does not eat the recommended amount of fiber. So just how much fiber is needed every day? The recommended amount is 30-38 grams for men and 21-25 grams for women.

Why is getting enough fiber so important? Here's why: heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. A diet rich in fiber can help lower high blood cholesterol, lower high blood pressure, and prevent obesity, all risk factors for developing heart disease. Another important role of fiber is preventing constipation. Getting enough fiber is vital to good nutrition. Here are some ways to increase

fiber in your diet:

Eat more fruits and vegetables. The recommendation is 2 cups of fruit and 2 ½ cups of vegetables per day. Eating the skin increases the amount of fiber from fruits and vegetables.

Choose whole grain breads, cereals, rice, and pastas. Try oatmeal or brown rice, and look for "bran" or "whole grain wheat" on the ingredient list.

Keep bags of frozen vegetables and fruits in your freezer. Add vegetables to soups, pizza, salads, casseroles, and pasta dishes. Mix fruit with low fat yogurt or cereal.

Have dry roasted nuts and seeds or low fat popcorn for a snack.

Have dried peas or beans, such as kidney, pinto, lentils, or black eyed peas as a side dish.

As you increase your fiber intake, be sure to drink plenty of water!

Okmulgee Indian Health Center plans child safety seat giveaway

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center will hold a Child Safety Seat Check on Saturday, June 16, during the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival.

The time will be from 9 a.m. to noon, located at the Tribal Complex, on the west side of the Mound Building. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will check existing child safety seats to ensure that they are correctly installed. Sometimes safety seats are recalled by the manufacturer or may not be the appropriate type for the child – in this

instance, a limited number of child safety seats will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.



Left to Right: Cassedy Pritchard, Brinley Pritchard, SafeKids Tulsa Volunteer, Carmen Brown, Albaney Pritchard, and mom Jamie Pritchard, participated in the 2006 Child Safety Seat Check.

Limited child safety seats to one per child; two per family. To ensure the best fit, both the child and the vehicle in which the child rides must be present. Parents will need to provide a tribal enrollment card or CDIB for the child.

If you're in town for the Creek Nation Festival, stop by and have your child's safety seat inspected. For information, contact Debra Isham or Pam Palmer at (918) 758-1926.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System
Administrative Services
• 1801 E. 4th • Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 • (918) 756-4333

"Nene Hvkoce" Walking Trails Program update

This first year of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation "Nene Hvkoce" Walking Trails Program is about to come to an end. May 31st will be the last day for participants to log their exercise time and steps for the end of the year individual and community awards. All walking program participants are invited to participate in the Creek Nation Festival 5K run/walk on June 16 where they will earn 200 bonus points towards their end of the year point total. On June 23, an end of the year awards ceremony will be held in each clinic community to recognize the participants who have participated throughout the year and earned enough points to reach a level of achievement. These participant who have reached a level of achievement will be awarded program t-shirts, Nike shoes, or Nike wind suits at this event. The community winners of the walking trails will be announced at the awards ceremony also. Next year's walking program will start in September and October. There will be announcements in the MNN about different community signups. While only planning for 500 participants this year, over 800 people came and signed up. The goal now is to hopefully increase this number next year. The chart to the right is a summary of each clinic area and the different communities participating. Listed are the number who signed up, the number that earned points in April, and the number from each community who have reached a level of achievement.

Diabetes Walking Program Apr-07 Community Count Update			
Okemah Area			
	Enrolled	Active	Fun Day
1 Okemah	70	15	6
2 Wetumka	46	13	3
3 Holdenville	42	11	3
4 Okfuskee	36	11	1
5 Paden	28	20	13
6 Weleetka	1	1	0
Totals:	223	71	26
Eufaula Area			
	Enrolled	Active	Fun Day
7 Eufaula	82	23	12
8 Checotah	62	17	1
9 Stidham	35	22	8
10 Hanna	26	1	0
Totals:	205	63	21
Okmulgee Area			
	Enrolled	Active	Fun Day
11 Okmulgee	108	21	17
12 Dewar	30	6	4
13 Morris	23	3	3
14 Twin Hills	5	0	0
15 Wilson	2	0	0
Totals:	168	30	24
Sapulpa Area			
	Enrolled	Active	Fun Day
16 Bristow	36	21	5
17 Tulsa	28	16	2
18 Duck Creek	23	4	2
19 Sapulpa	20	4	1
20 Glenpool	14	3	2
Totals:	121	48	12
Koweta Area			
	Enrolled	Active	Fun Day
21 Koweta	74	31	19
22 Muskogee	28	3	0
Totals:	102	34	19

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

HOUSING DIVISION

Policy change makes building on restricted Indian land easier

For the first time since the Muscogee Nation Home Ownership Program was established, Housing will build a Home Ownership house on Restricted Indian land. This may not sound notable to most Creek Citizens, but if they had ever applied for a house through the Lease With Option to Purchase Program and wanted to use restricted land as the location for the home they would be well aware of the importance of this change.

In the past all applicants in the Lease With Option to Purchase Program were required to remove any restriction on their donated land before Housing would build a home on it. Anybody whose has ever tried removing the restriction from their

land knows the difficulty and financial costs often involved. Frequently the land is undivided and there are numerous heirs making the task even more difficult. Also by removing the restriction, the land and any structures on the land are subject to property taxes. To a Lease With Option to Purchase homeowner, who usually has a fixed or lower income this could be an overwhelming problem.

With the new changes in policy, housing can now build on donated restricted land without lifting the restrictions. By keeping the restricted status land on the land no real estate taxes will have to be paid by the homebuyer after the home is paid off. Also just by avoiding the task

of removing the restriction is a real benefit.

“Previously just the fact of having to remove the restriction discouraged applicants from using restricted Indian land, often their home place and the only land they owned, as donated land for use in the Homeownership Program”, said Development Manager, Geri Berryhill. “Now that the policy has changed we would like to encourage citizens who may have been removed from the program because of the restricted land policy to make inquiries to the Housing Admissions Department about whether the change could now help their land situation.”



HOUSING BEGINS FINAL PHASE OF ELDERLY HOUSING PROJECT

The Housing Division began the final phase of the Elderly Housing Addition. Chief A.D. Ellis and other dignitaries broke ground on what will complete the planned 24 unit Housing Addition. The groundbreaking included a song and prayer by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and an address by Chief Ellis. The final contract was awarded to Creek contractor, Harris Contracting.



INDIAN HOMES GET A NEW LOOK

Diving down a road or street you could often guess which houses were build by the Home Ownership Program. Mainly because they were almost all built exactly the same. Rectangular in shape with a car port at one end. The Housing Division is trying to get away from that stereotype by giving Home Owners more options in how their homes look. Home owners now have the choices of several different floor plans. They can pick the brick color and texture, roof color, carpet color and various other choices. We want to give the home owner as much opportunity as possible in making their home something they can be proud of, said Housing employee, Ivan Pulliam.

ELDERLY NEWSsenior services offers new program



Jackson Barnett
Elderly Activities Coordinator

The senior services program of Creek Nation has finalized plans and agreements to provide lawn grass cutting and tree limb branch trimming for creek elders who can no longer do this work for themselves.

The agreements is the Thunderbird Youth Academy located in Pryor, Oklahoma. Thunderbird is an alternative school that helps its students to-

ward earning their GED's. In addition the their school work the cadets earn points or credits by working off campus out in communities. This is how I heard about thunderbird and why I began negotiations with their staff to work with our Creek Elders.

This service has been needed for as long as I have worked for creek nation and now I believe this help for our seniors will become a reality. All along I had been receiving calls for this kind of assistance. But, unfortunately, I had to tell our seniors no service of this kind is available. I tired to start this help some year and a half ago, but legalities prevented me.

Just within the past month, the very thing that we will try to prevent happened right here in Okmulgee I received a call that during some high winds a branch had broken and

fallen onto the back part of an elder's home.

The agreement with thunderbird is as follows: they will provide the manpower and the senior services program will furnish the work sites and all necessary equipment. The work sites will be stacked up in one area that work day so as to prevent us from having to travel too far form job to job.

More about the work to be done. The new service will provide grass/lawn cutting and tree trimming, branch overhanging homes. We will be able to cut limbs and remove them from tops of homes. We will not, unfortunately, be able to remove them off the premises. If possible, we may be able to rake up the cut grass and bag it for removal.

Please understand that we will

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

“Good Times”

Have you ever heard the saying, “When it bleeds, it leads.” This statement infers that for news to be interesting it has to involve blood. The time has come for good news to have the spotlight. This new column is entitled “Good Times” and is centered around the good things that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation does for its people. My name is Nicholas Howk and I am the “New Kid on the Block” here at the Muscogee Nation News. I have always had a vision to spread news that focused on the positive things in life. Well, in this column I will be able to do



Nicholas Howk
howk_nicholas@yahoo.com

just that. I urge the readers of this column to take a look at the world around them and help me in finding stories about the good things the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is doing for its people. The stories in the “Good Times” section may tug at your heart and give you that warm feeling inside, but these stories are more than just a good feeling. I challenge whoever is reading about these events to pay close attention to the messages and remember there are good incidents that happen around us. All we have to do is pay attention.

A Chief with a Heart

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

WETUMKA — Approximately the first week of June, Wetumka resident Letha Randall found herself in a situation that was out of her control. With the recent reoccurrence of the Oklahoma rain storms, Randall's lawn, along with many other people in the state, had grown to a point where something had to be done. Although Randall did not like the looks of her yard, she was unable to do anything to resolve the problem. A few days later Randall received a visit from her landlord. Randall's landlord proceeded to tell her if she did not do something about her grass then the city was going to fine her a maximum fine of 119 dollars.

After receiving this news Randall broke down and began to cry. She knew there was nothing she could do and immediately fell into a further state of depression. Randall said, “I couldn't have paid anyone a quarter if I had to.” Randall has lived a tough life and has several reasons for being so distraught in what seemed to be such a small problem. Randall's ailments are; congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), arthritis and depression. If her health problems aren't enough, Randall is also living on a fixed income, which barely pays her monthly rent and utilities. With her current financial and health status, Randall seemed to have no means of getting someone to cut her grass for her.

After a short period of time, Randall was able to compose herself enough to try to solve the problem on her own. If her health problems were not enough, Randall was in the process of recovering from two shoulder surgeries and was unable to pull the rope on her lawn mower. Randall sat and thought for a while and became so desperate that she began rummaging through her house and found two pairs of sewing scissors. After locating the scissors, Randall made her way out of her house and got situated on the ground and began to cut her grass blade by blade. If the situation was not already bad enough, Randall could not even crawl around on her hands and knees because her two knees are in desperate need of replacing. Not being able to crawl around on her hands and knees, Randall was forced to sit down on the ground and work in one area at a time.

The process of cutting her grass with scissors went on for about thirty-minutes. In that short time Randall's fingers became blistered and the heat began to bare down on her. After cutting her grass for a while,



Letha Randall

Randall received another visitor, but this time it was not a bearer of bad news. It was Carolyn Fish, van driver for the Wetumka Nutrition Center. Fish was making her daily visit delivering lunches when she saw Randall sitting on the ground. Fish proceeded to ask Randall what she was doing. With tears in her eyes Randall told Fish the situation she was in.

Immediately, Fish made Randall go in the house because it was too hot and she did not need to be out in that kind of heat. Fish left Randall's house and made her way back to the Nutrition Center where she began telling some of her co-workers about Randall's situation. After hearing the story one co-worker pointed and told Fish to talk to the man across the room. With his back

to her, Fish had no idea who she was about to talk to. When she approached the man, he turned around and much to her surprise it was Chief A.D. Ellis. Fish continued across the room, introduced herself and explained to Chief Ellis the situation she had just witnessed.

Later on that day, Randall heard someone outside her house and she assumed it was someone coming to fine her. After a few minutes there was a knock at the door and a man began to talk to Randall about her lawn and then introduced Chief Ellis. That afternoon the same man who had introduced Chief Ellis came back to Randall's house and cut the grass. After the man had finished, he knocked on the door once again and told Randall he would be back in two weeks to cut the grass again. The only words that Randall could utter through her crying was, “A Chief with a heart.” And that is what she thinks of him to this day. All Randall's worries about her grass were gone in just a few hours. Randall wants Chief Ellis to know that he will always be in her prayers and it was an honor for him to be at her house.

This small act of kindness may not mean much to some people, but to sixty-year-old Randall it was worth more than a million dollars. This incident helped a woman to rid herself of some unwanted stress and has allowed her to go to sleep at night and want to wake up in the morning. Some people may wonder just how this small act could change someone's life so much, this story just goes to show that even the smallest compassionate gestures can have the greatest impacts on people's lives.

Don't forget to keep your eyes out for the “Good Times” in life because if they are small, you just might miss them.

that may arise. We will learn as we go along to smooth out the rough spots. But I envision good thins for our creek elders and could be the beginning of a worthwhile endeavor.

I wish to thank Danna Minnick of Employment and Training for her suggesting thunderbird academy, Mr.. James Pratt, the Controller, for his approval to purchase the necessary equipment, Kevin Dellinger and Kasier Mckensie of the Attorney General's office for writing up the contract with Thunderbird, Mr.. Claude Sumner and Principal Chief Ellis for endorsing my project, and lastly the cadets or our new found partner who will be doing all the labor, thunderbird academy.

I am pleased to make this announcement. MVTO and Sincerely Jackson Barnett.

EDUCATION

College of the Muscogee Nation

College of the Muscogee Nation: Academic achievement. Native values. CMN offers Associate Degrees in Gaming, Tribal Services and Native American Studies with specializations in Mvskoke Studies and Mvskoke Language are offered through a partnership with OSU-Okmulgee. In collaboration with OSU-OKC, the tribal college offers a degree in Police Science. Certificate Programs are offered in Gaming and Mvskoke Language Studies.

The Gaming Degree is a 61 credit hour program that focuses on casino operations, marketing, management, hospitality and customer relations. Students can expect to gain a well rounded educational experience in courses relating to Native American gaming law, Native American gaming regulations, and casino operations.



Learning experiences will be supported by a well qualified faculty. Class schedules are designed for individuals who have full time jobs.

The Tribal Services Degree, a 66 credit hour program emphasizes administration and human services in the tribal organization. Courses are designed to address the specialized educational needs of individuals who plan to work for a tribal government. An example of the kinds of courses that will be a part of a student's degree plan include tribal government, Indian land issues, project management and grant writing.

The Native American Studies Degree is a specialized 66 credit hour program that focuses on Mvskoke studies and language or an alternate program for other tribal groups. Students will study the intricacies of the tribal language

and/or historical aspects of the tribal community. Faculty are well versed in the language and traditions as well as tribal contemporary issues.

The Police Science Degree is a 60 credit hour academic program designed for tribal law enforcement officers. Students receive college credit for CLEET classes completed and participate in specialized courses relating to federal Indian law, tribal court, tribal government and tribal language. Many of the faculty are involved in the tribal judicial system or in tribal services; class schedules are planned to meet the time requirements of students who are employed full time.

The Gaming Certificate Program is a 24 credit hour program designed for students who prefer specialized courses only and not full spectrum of courses for the Associate degree.

The Mvskoke Language Studies Certificate Program is a 21 credit hour program designed for students who prefer in-depth study in the tribal language only.

Financial Aid Information

College of the Muscogee Nation Tuition Waiver

Native American students enrolled full time in the College of the Muscogee Nation will be eligible for full waivers for tuition, books, and other fees.

To be eligible for this waiver, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Identification as an enrolled citizen of a federally recognized tribe.
2. Demonstrated participation in tribal community services.
3. Must maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher and be enrolled in 12 hours.

A copy of the applicant's citizenship card will also need to be submitted with the application.

Applicants should be aware that this is a competitive process and are encouraged to double check the application submission for accuracy and neatness.

Applications for waivers will be considered when the following is

submitted:

1. Admittance into OSU-Okmulgee and the College of the Muscogee Nation.
2. Copy of citizenship card.
3. Waiver application, signed and dated.

College of the Muscogee Nation Scholarship Guidelines to follow for program eligibility:

1. MUST BE an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with verification of citizenship.
2. Currently enrolled in the College of the Muscogee Nation and/or auditing courses through CMN.
3. For room and board expenses to be covered, applicant must be a full time on campus student at the College of the Muscogee Nation.
4. Complete and include all requirements as listed on the original application.
5. Apply for Federal Financial

Aid (the award will be determined by financial need and enrollment status.)

6. Students who receive the scholarship are expected to earn at least 1 credit hour per semester and with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.
7. All students are responsible for submitting the grades at the end of each term. Failure to do could result in a delay of continued funding or suspension from the scholarship program.
8. You must attach a copy of your course schedule to the application.
9. Previous recipients of the scholarship will need to file a "Renewal Form" should the student meet eligibility requirements for the following academic year.

For more information or questions, please contact the College of the Muscogee Nation at PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call (918)758-1480.

Native American Fund Advisors (NAFA) Scholarship

To provide financial assistance and to identify talented Muscogee (Creek) students interested in the area of business, finance or accounting.

This scholarship was made possible by the generous donation of Native American Fund Advisors (NAFA). NAFA is one of a few Indian owned and operated fee based investment management firms in the United States. NAFA's founders and current owners represent citizenships from the Cherokee, Chickasaw and Muscogee

(Creek) Nations. Located in Tulsa, NAFA offers bond and equity portfolio management for tribal governments, foundations, corporations, trusts, pensions and profit sharing plans, and high net-worth individuals.

Four scholarships for \$1000 each will be awarded to a Muscogee (Creek) student enrolled in undergraduate study. Four (4) Scholarships will be open for Freshmen through Senior year at any two or four-year college/university. The Students must

have a major in business, finance or accounting. To be eligible, a student must remain in full-time status for the entire academic year that the scholarship covers, and maintain a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 Scale.

All applicants must complete the application and supply the appropriate documentation. Incomplete applications and/or applications lacking appropriate support documentation will not be considered. The deadline for application is July 31.

Myths about financial aid

"I'm not going to bother filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid because..."

"...my parents make too much money, so I wouldn't qualify for aid."

Reality: There is no income cut-off to qualify for federal student aid. Many factors besides income-from the size of your family to the age of your older parent- are taken into account. Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) may also be used to determine state and institutional aid.

"...only students with good grades

get financial aid."

Reality: While a high grade point average is important for academic scholarships, most of the federal student aid programs do not take a student's grades into consideration. Provided a student maintains satisfactory academic progress, federal aid helps students with average academic records.

"...you have to be a minority to get financial aid."

Reality: Funds from the federal student aid programs are awarded on the basis of financial need, NOT on the basis of race. The FAFSA does not collect ethnicity

information.

"...the form is too hard to fill out."

Reality: The FAFSA is easier than ever, especially if you fill it out online at www.fafsa.ed.gov There are detailed instructions for every question. If you need help, you can call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) and speak to a customer service representative. You can also get FREE help from a high school counselor or a financial aid office at the school you plan to attend.

U.S. Department of Education
2005-2006 v.1

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

JOB TITLE INSTRUCTOR – MUSCOGEE LANGUAGE STUDIES
SALARY RANGE: NEGOTIABLE
LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL COLLEGE
JOB DUTIES: Under the direction of the Academic Administrator, the Instructor in Muscogee Studies/Muscogee Language Studies is responsible for teaching college level classes, contributing to the development of curriculum in their field of expertise, working with the Curriculum Specialist for course design, syllabi, and lesson plan development. Instructors are expected to follow College of the Muscogee Nation and Regents board level policy. A full time instructor is expected to teach 12 to 15 hours, or 4 to 5 courses each semester, with teaching loads adjusted for service responsibilities. Instructor must be able to teach on the College of Muscogee Nation sites in Okmulgee and Tulsa. Instructor must be willing to learn to deliver courses through distributive education. The instructor will be the academic advisers for their degree field, and will be expected to meet with advisees periodically throughout each semester and maintain appropriate records pertaining to their advisers. The instructor must be comfortable in multicultural and Native American classroom settings.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum requirements: An earned masters from an accredited institution with teaching experience. Demonstrated knowledge of Mvskoke or Southeastern culture and/or history and/or linguistics. Preferred requirements: Terminal degree and evidence of college teaching and advising. Certification or minor in American Indian studies. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

***COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION IS REQUIRED**
INDIAN PREFERENCE
CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

JOB TITLE INSTRUCTOR - GAMING
SALARY RANGE: NEGOTIABLE
LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL COLLEGE
JOB DUTIES: Under the direction of the Academic Administrator, the Instructor in Gaming Administration is responsible for teaching college level classes, contributing to the development of curriculum in their field of expertise, working with the Curriculum Specialist for course design syllabi, and lesson plan development. Instructors are expected to follow College of the Muscogee Nation and Regents board level policy. Teach a minimum of 4 courses a semester in the context of curriculum development, the instructor will develop new courses directed toward the degree programs of the College of the Muscogee Nation. Meet with advisees to develop degree plans and monitor their academic progress through out each semester. Be available to students by holding publicly posted office hours. Serve as requested to the department and the college. Instructor must be able to teach on the College of the Muscogee Nation sites in Okmulgee and Tulsa. The instructor must be comfortable in multicultural and Native American classroom settings.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum requirements: An earned masters from an accredited institution with teaching experience. Demonstrated knowledge of the Tribal Gaming industry. Preferred requirements: Terminal degree and evidence of college teaching and advising. Exemplary oral communication, interpersonal and organizational skills. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

***COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION IS REQUIRED**
INDIAN PREFERENCE
CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

JOB TITLE INSTRUCTOR – TRIBAL SERVICES
SALARY RANGE: NEGOTIABLE
LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL COLLEGE
JOB DUTIES: Under the direction of the Academic Administrator, the Instructor in Tribal Services is responsible for teaching college level classes, contributing to the development of curriculum in their field of expertise, working with the Curriculum Specialist for course design, syllabi, and lesson plan development. Instructors are expected to follow College of the Muscogee Nation and Regents board level policy. A full time instructor is expected to teach 12 to 15 hours, or 4 to 5 courses each semester, with teaching loads adjusted for service responsibilities. Instructor must be able to teach on the College of the Muscogee Nation sites in Okmulgee and Tulsa. Instructor must be willing to learn to deliver courses through distributive education. The instructor will be the academic adviser for their degree field, and will be expected to meet with advisees periodically throughout each semester and maintain appropriate records pertaining to their advisees. The instructor must be comfortable in multicultural and Native American classroom settings.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum requirements: An earned masters from an accredited institution with teaching experience. Knowledge of administration within tribal governmental structures. Preferred requirements: Terminal degree and evidence of college teaching and advising. Experience in tribal administrative work places. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

***COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION IS REQUIRED**
INDIAN PREFERENCE
CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

JOB TITLE LIBRARY AND IT RESOURCE SPECIALIST
SALARY RANGE: NEGOTIABLE
LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL COLLEGE
JOB DUTIES: Under the direction of the Academic Administrator, the Library and IT Resource Specialist will plan, develop, implement and maintain the Learning Resource Center for the College of the Muscogee Nation as well as provide technological support to tribal college staff and faculty. Will plan the development of the college Learning Resource Center including Virtual Library resources for the Tribal College degree program. Will assist the Academic Administrator in developing an online education system and provide support to staff in developing online classes. The person holding this position helps faculty to facilitate e-learning, including design. Will direct and manage the learning resource center including computer lab and student workers. This individual will teach a minimum of one college course per semester at sites in the Muscogee (Creek) nation and be comfortable in multicultural and Native American classroom settings. May be called upon as an academic adviser. Will be expected to follow College of the Muscogee Nation and Regents board level policy.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum requirements: An earned masters from an accredited institution in Library Science or related fields. Minimum two years work experience in the field. Preferred requirements: Terminal degree and evidence of college teaching and advising. Project management work experience in higher education settings. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

***COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION IS REQUIRED**
INDIAN PREFERENCE
CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

SEND APPLICATIONS TO: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Personnel Services P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, Fax: (918) 756-2284 sarmour@muscogeenation-nsn.gov www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

COLLEGE GRADUATES

Reception for the 2007 College of the Muscogee Nation Graduates

OKMULGEE — On Thursday, May 17, 2007 at the OSU State Room, eight graduates of the College of the Muscogee Nation received awards at their graduation reception.

The graduates of the College of the Muscogee Nation are: Leland Bear, *Police Science A.A.S.*; Vince Fisher, *Police Science A.A.S.*; Richard Fixico, *Police Science A.A.S.*; Leslie Powell, *Business/Tribal Services A.A.S.*; Andrew Roberts, *Police Science A.A.S.*; Ben Watashe, *Police Science A.A.S.*; Daniel Wind III, *Police Science A.A.S.*; and Jerry Wittman, *Police Science A.A.S.* Friends and family also attended the reception as well as several of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Administration.



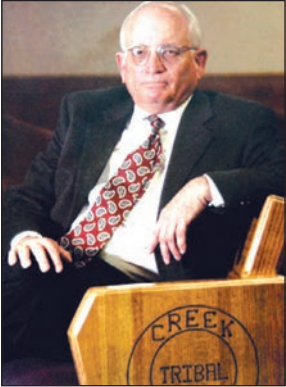


FEATURES

MVSKOKE HISTORY: Chief Pleasant Porter

by Josh Slane
MNN Reporter

The man who would one day be known as Chief Pleasant Porter was born Pleasant Porter on September 26, 1840. Pleasant Porter was also known by the euphonious Indian name of Talof Harjo which translates to Crazy Bear and is of the Bird clan. He was born on a plantation near Clarksville in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, his father (Benjamin Porter) was from an influential Pennsylvanian family and his mother (Phoebe Perryman) was the grand-daughter of an influential Creek Chief, Chief Benjamin Perryman Steek-cha-ko-meco who was an adherent of the McIntosh faction. Chief Porter is number 6220 on the Dawes roll.



Chief Porter attended school at the Presbyterian Indian Mission School at Tullahassee. When the civil war came to the Creek Nation he signed up with the Confederate armies as a private. He served in the First Mounted Creek Volunteers under Col. D. N. McIntosh who fought along side Col. Douglas H. Cooper. They engaged Opothleyahola thrice, once on November 19, 1861 at Round Mountain. The second engagement took place on November 29th on Bird Creek, north of Tulsa. They finally routed him at Chustenahleh on December 26th, driving him north into Kansas.

During the war Porter was wounded three times. Twice he was wounded in the head and once he was wounded in the thigh, which left him with a slight limp for the rest of his life. The end of the war saw Porter having attained a rank of First Lieutenant and Quartermaster Corps, and his record attested to his unflinching courage.

Returning home he found his home had been ravaged by war, his crops and stock slaughtered, the slaves freed, and his father dead so he took his family into Arkansas and sought out the life of a farmer only to be called away from farming the three thousand acre farm he built in order that he might serve his nation as the Superintendent of Schools in the Creek Nation in 1870 in 1871 he reordered the school system, the previous system having been virtu-

ally destroyed in the civil war.

In 1872 he married Mary Ellen Keys, the daughter of Judge Riley Keys, the Chief Justice of the Courts of the Cherokee Nation for 25 years. They would have three children, William Adair, Pleasant, and Annetta Mary. In 1886 Mary Ellen would pass away. He would then marry Mattie Lenora Bertholf, a cousin of his first wife. He would have a single daughter by this marriage, Lenora.

In 1871, bitterness from the divisions during the civil war began to come to a head in the form of the "Sands Rebellion" during the time of Chief Checote, and when Chief Checote attempted to convene the council at Okmulgee he called upon Pleasant Porter to lead the 300 Light Horsemen charged with keeping order. Along with Federal agents he was able to quell the uprising without a loss of life, thanks in large part to the large amount of respect the people of the Sands Rebellion afforded him.

In 1871, during his time in the House of Warriors Pleasant Porter was called upon as a member of the Light Horsemen to quell the Lachar Harjo insurrection. He was again placed in command of the light horsemen and again managed to resolve the situation without violence.

In 1872 Porter would go to Washington D.C. as an official representative of the Muscogee Nation, starting a period of diplomatic service of his tribe that would only end with his death. During his time in D.C. he would have the ear of senators, congressmen, and presidents, and President McKinley, during his time as a senator, referred to Pleasant Porter as "The Greatest Living Indian." He also became a friend of President Theodore Roosevelt.

Porter was a member of the House of Warriors for the October 1875 session and served and was sent to Washington in 1875 and again in 1876. He was a member of the House of Kings during the October 1877 session and was sent to Washington in 1877 and again in 1878. He was President of the House of Kings for the session ending in December 1879 and was President again in the October session of 1880 and 1881,

representing Big Spring Town. He travelled to Washington twice in 1881 and the second time he remained there until 1888. He continued to preside over the House of Kings in for October of 1882 and October and December of 1883. He was again a member of the House of Kings in 1888 and 1889 and again travelled to the capital in those years.

In 1882 a third insurrection would begin headed by Isparhecher, a judge from the Okmulgee District that was charged with seditious utterances and removed from office. He was joined by the remnants of the previous uprisings comprising about 350 men and based in Nuyaka. Again Porter was called upon to defend his nation, and this time Porter was given command of 700 light horsemen and Porter began an offensive campaign. Isparhecher was driven from the Muscogee Nation by Porter.

During the campaign there would only be a small handful of casualties, 8 at most, but one of them would be Porter's brother. The insurrection ended with the disarming and release of the insurrectionists. The conflict would be known as the Green Peach War. It was at this time that Pleasant Porter acquired the title of General Porter.

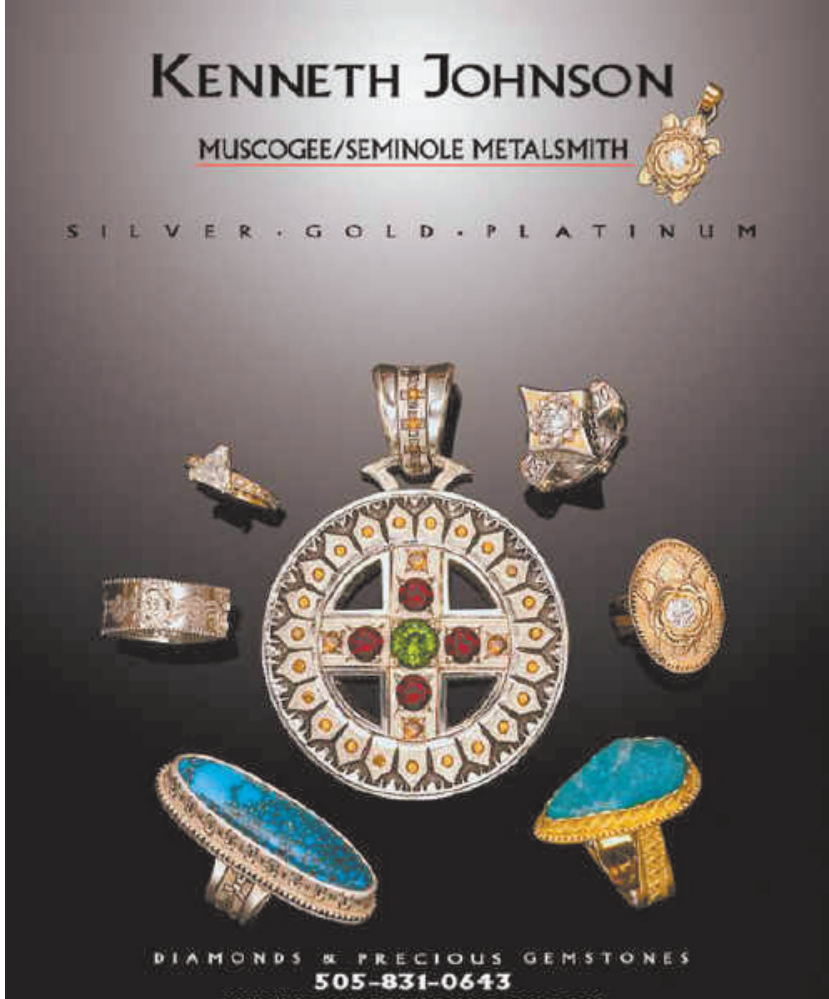
On Jan. 31, 1889 an agreement was reached between the Muscogee Nation and the American Government in which the government gave the Muscogee people approximately \$2.25 Million in exchange for releasing the land the Muscogee Nation ceded in 1866 from the restrictions placed upon it. General Porter, along with all the others involved in this transaction would receive a large amount of criticism for the sale.

Also in 1889 he would run for the role of Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation and would be defeated by Isparhecher, the leader of the uprising during the Green Peach War. Knowing that allotment was inevitable and resistance would be futile, in 1897 a commission headed by Porter would reach an agreement with the Dawes Commission. The agreement would be approved by the Muscogee people in 1898 and thus the allotments would begin in 1899.

— CONT. IN JULY ISSUE —

Mvskoke Artist

UFO's to Jewelry — Kenneth Johnson Coming to Creek Festival



OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum announces that Expressions of a Creek Artist in Metal, a visually stunning exhibit of over 50 unique pieces of jewelry valued at more than one-quarter of a million dollars-by Muscogee (Creek) metalsmith Kenneth Johnson, will be coming to Okmulgee. The exhibit will be open to the public starting on Wednesday, June 13th and continue through Saturday, June 16th. An exhibit preview reception will be held on Tuesday evening, June 12th.

Kenneth's pieces reflect his Creek and Seminole heritage. Many of his designs incorporate the imagery found on artifacts from the ancient mound-builders: designs that are his creative inspiration for wearable works of art. Kenneth expresses his artistic vision in traditional materials such as copper and in contemporary materials such as gold set with cabochon, faceted stones and introducing a new medium, palladium.

Currently based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Kenneth was raised in Oklahoma and educated in Seneca and Sequoyah Indian boarding schools. He was studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Oklahoma then in 1988 at the University of New Mexico; he met Choctaw Metalsmith Artist Johnson Bobb from Albuquerque, who took Kenneth in as an apprentice and taught him the basics of silversmithing.

This background has fueled his design instincts of the Muskogean Moundbuilder imagery to produce objects with symmetry and beauty distinct from Southwestern jewelry. As Kenneth draws from his heritage, he has the ability to interpret the ancient Muskogean cultures and place those images into a modern context. This modern interpretation has a beauty and symmetry that is at once both evocative and thought-provoking in its designs. Kenneth has the ability to meld the past with the future in his works.

Kenneth will also teach a jewelry making class on June 8. The class that Kenneth is bringing to the Creek Council House will show the range of technical and design skills in a variety of materials and metals. He will bring in old coins, and 'found' materials, such as metal, river rock, wood, shell and organic materials. In The class will focus on designs from found materials

and possibly (time permitting) from an old car to make the jewelry. In addition, the tools needed for the class will be self-made from other found materials such as, concrete, nails, rebar, files and other items.

The class is organized to take advantage of the historical patterns of the Creek people, which is using only what is available and around the artisan. Many of the works of art that we see from the archaeological record were made from the surrounding environment and were made for utilitarian use. Once the boundary from utilitarian to symbolic was crossed, many aspects of our cosmology, world view and spiritual beliefs came to be expressed in wood, ceramic, shell and metal works

This event brings Kenneth full circle to the Creek Council House with this Art Show and Class. He has a burning desire to share his knowledge with those who want to carry on those traditions, spirituality, and history. Kenneth says, "I enjoy creating objects that are both beautiful and practical. There are so many facets to consider in a piece of jewelry—the weight...the materials used...the color...texture...the meaning of the design... sentimental value and wearability. All are factors that make it possible to appreciate my pieces."

Kenneth's class titled "UFO Jewelry: Urban Found Objects Jewelry." Classes will begin on Friday evening June 8, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and will continue on Sunday June 10th, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and will continue after a break on the following Friday and Saturday, which is during the Creek Festival. Those classes will be Friday and Saturday June 15-16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.. A limited number of spaces are available so apply now for a spot in the class. If interested, please call the Creek Council House Museum for details as class spots are going fast. All classes will be held on the lawn of the Creek Council House Museum, weather permitting.

The public is also invited to meet Kenneth and preview the exhibit with an opening reception on Tuesday, June 12 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Creek Council House Museum located at 106 West 6th Street in historic downtown Okmulgee.

For further information please call the museum at 918-756-2324. This exhibit is sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Cultural Activities

Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to Host Art Exhibit

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to host the "Art from Indian Territory 2007: The State of Being American Indian" exhibit. The exhibit began on May 14 and runs through June 22, 2007. The art exhibit is sponsored by the American Indian Culture Center and Museum.

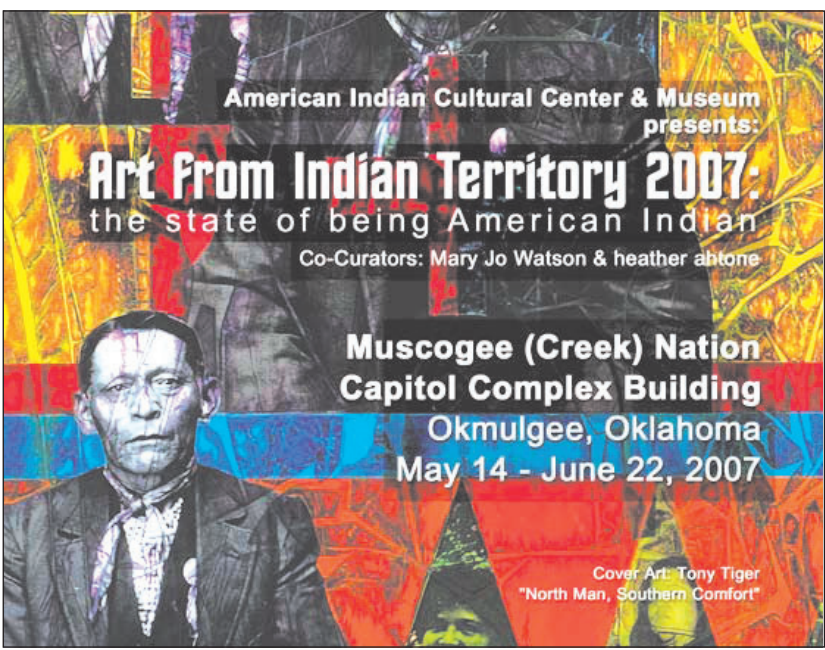
The exhibition has been on display in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capitol Complex main lobby and is free and open to the public for viewing during normal business hours Monday through Friday.

On Friday, May 18 an opening reception was held.

"Over 141 people came to the event, which is the fullest the lobby has been since the recent renovation. We had visitors from all over Oklahoma come to witness this major event for our new lobby," says lobby coordinator Sunny Tiger.

Several Creek/Seminole/Euchee artists are part of this exhibit: Tom Fields, Richard Ray Whitman, Tony Tiger and Ben Harjo. During the 33rd Annual Creek Festival on Saturday, June 16, from noon until 4 p.m., the public is invited to attend a reception and view these breathtaking works of art.

The opportunity for this touring exhibition to travel to Okmulgee has been made possible by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief, A. D. Ellis, in conjunction with the Creek Council House Museum.



A century after statehood, what does it mean to be an Indian artist in Oklahoma? This contemporary traveling exhibit will survey the change in American Indian art since statehood. Beginning with some of the well known precedents such as: Ledger Art, Kiowa 5+1 and boarding school art programs and will also include a selection of significant works from each decade.

- This exhibition will:
- Stimulate a historical discussion of Indian Art in Oklahoma;
 - Expand the boundaries pertaining to what is considered Indian Art;

- Correlate Indian Art in context with the state's Centennial Commemoration; and
 - Provide access and educational experiences for rural communities throughout the state.
- In collaboration and partnership with the American Indian tribes and nations, the NACEA mission is to communicate the story of journey from ancestral homelands; nurture the creation of traditional cultural arts and their contemporary expression, and facilitate the ongoing documentation and discussion of American Indian peoples' history and culture.

LANGUAGE

Language Preservation Manager



Norma Marshall
HOFONVKE...A long time ago...that is how we begin our account of ihistory and stories from long ago. One of the many projects of the program has been to carry the MVSKOKE language back to the homelands of Alabama and Georgia. Everything came with us up the trail to Oklahoma—language and culture—everything that is uniquely MVSKOKE.

I was requested to present the MVSKOKE language at the Ocmulgee National Monument in Macon, Georgia last year. At the close of the day, the Park Ranger conducted a personal tour for Sylvia Baker, Mike Marshall, and me when the park closed the front gates to the public. We went to the Earth

Lodge, the Funeral Mounds, the Lesser Temple Mounds, and the Great Temple Mounds.

While we were touring the Funeral Mound, my nephew was taking pictures. ECO—deer—began coming out of the woods and moving in the direction of my nephew. I explained that these were ancestors—we are connected to ECOVLKE on our father’s family line—welcoming him home.

We proceeded to the Temple Mounds. While we were there, my nephew continued to take pictures of the mounds and the aerial view form the top of the mounds; Ms. Baker and the Park Ranger were discussing history of the people. I stood in the center of the Great Temple Mound; as I was waiting, I began to hear men’s voices speaking in the MVSKOKE language; the men’s voices continued for a while—there was no one else present with us—and then there was silence. The words that were spoken were for me to carry from that point forward. It was an awesome experience.

I was also invited to present at the Moundville Festival in Moundville, Alabama. Taking the MVSKOKE language back to the homelands has been a wonderful experience for the program and the people who receive our language.

After the Festival ended, I was invited to tour Fort Toulouse in Wetumpka, Alabama. While I was there visiting the area, I went to the place where three rivers fork—the Coosa, the Talapoosa, and the Alabama Rivers. I explained to the archeologist and tour guide, Mr. Ned Jenkins, that there were many parallels to Oklahoma. Some of us left a three fork river in Alabama and arrived at a three fork river in Oklahoma—the Arkansas, the Verdigris, and the Canadian Rivers at Fort Gibson.

While we were walking around the rivers and the fort area, I spoke about chestnuts and the significance to our people; also, I mentioned that two of our calendar terms have the name of the chestnuts.

The next topic was grape dump-lings—PVRKO AFKE—and how we use ‘possum grapes. The Alabama people did not recognize the term ‘possum grapes. As we continued on the trail through the woods, I spotted ‘possum grapes in the trees. I said, “Look! Those are ‘possum grapes!” One of the Alabama people said, “That is Virginia Creeper.” Can you guess what I said? I stated very emphatically, “No! Those are ‘possum grapes!” Now they know... I guess going back to the homelands has benefited all of us all around.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE CAMP

PRESTON — Creek Nation’s Mvskoke Language Immersion Camp was held on May 21–25, 2007 at the United Indian Methodist Camp Ground. The event was the first of this type held by the Language program.

Norma Marshall Manager of Mvskoke Language Program felt the camp was a success by the attendance and participation of each student. The mission and purpose of the immersion camp was to immerse the 25 students in attendance into the Mvskoke language.

“Each day was filled with presentations and activities that were designed to enhance learning physically, spiritually, mentally and emotionally for a balance of all things that our Creator has given to us as Mvskoke people,” said Marshall..

The week began with registration on Monday morning, general assembly followed by keynote speaker Victor Marshall, Transportation Director of Holdenville Public Schools. Marshall encouraged each student to always do what is right and to be responsible and to prepare for life. He gave a heartfelt testimony and shared with each student.

The luncheon speakers were MCN Lighthorse Officers Ben Watashe and Richard Fixico. Each gave the campers a informative presentation of the dangers and effects of Meth use by it’s users within Muscogee Creek Nation. The power point presentation helped get the need to reach families and friends across all cultures.

On a daily basis the campers were also taught a lot of Mvskoke traditional items such as basketry, pottery, tribal attire, Mvskoke pucker toe moccasins and flute making, the youth also participated in traditional games such as stickball and treated to story telling.

Monday’s activity highlighted was the Mvskoke basketry (svmpv) taught by Mary Smith. The campers were taught to make a doublewall svmpv. She also taught them to make small leather coin bags. MLP Specialist Mary Frye made one that she was very proud of.

Tuesday’s activities included a presentation by Brownie Harjo, Martial Arts Instructor from Holdenville. He presented the students his heart on discipline, responsibility and preparation for their lives. He demonstrated martial arts and instructed the students in the stretching exercises and beginning workout activities. Discipline is very crucial part of martial arts.

Tuesday’s luncheon keynote speaker was Ramon Mason, Chairperson of Board of Regents of the College of the Muscogee Nation. Mason presented a beautiful Mvskoke woman’s dress that she made from researching pictures in museums and history books. Lillian Thomas and Deana Hurd

of Creek Council House Museum taught Mvskoke Pottery – Mosestv. The group enjoyed making small bowl, necklaces, and medallions out of the Mosestv.

Wednesday’s activities the group met Sterlin Harjo shared his experiences from writing the scripts to filming and editing the movie. A young talented movie maker recently had his film, “Four Sheets to the Wind,” featured during the



2007 Sundance Festival Program’s Native Forum. Harjo created a rich Oklahoma atmosphere with its rural landscapes and easy country rhythms, infusing the entire film with a warm sense of humor. He also instructed the students in script writing as part of as assignment for the students.

Irene Culley of MCN Diabetes and exercise Program served as the keynote speaker during the luncheon. She informed the students about good nutrition and exercise to help in encouraging healthy lifestyles. Vanessa Hicks taught the students handweaving beautiful colored yarn bracelets and bookmarks.

Thursday’s luncheon speaker was Rosemary Maxey. Teacher and the premier keynote speaker was Brian Frejo aka “Shock B” Recording Artist and Native Threads spokesperson and actor of New Line Cinema film “THE NEW WORLD,” and his life as an Actor, Hip Hop Artist, DJ, Speaker, Teacher, and Cultural Activist, often referred to as one of “the founding fathers’ of Native Hip-Hop,” has achieved huge success both in and outside of Indian Country as one of the hottest and most sought after DJs and music producers. Known for his “party rocker” style, Brian loves what he does and “reps” for the Native always. Brian travels nationwide as a DJ and has rocked crowds with headliner musical acts, including: 50 cent; Ceelo; Lil Jon; the Visionaries; Mex; Emcee One; Jana; YinYang Twins; Mars Ill; Casper L; Phife Dawg; Roli Rho; Yerba Buena; Z-Trip; Atmosphere; Eternia; Non-Prophets; KnightShield; and various other artists in the past two years. The performer has used Mvskoke language in some of his music.

Frejo performed several Mvskoke hymns for the young crowd. He had the group write down four things that they would like to accomplish and stressed the importance of working to get things accomplished. Some of the staff felt he was really in touch with the campers. Among

his accomplishments, demands and busy schedules Brian spent the day with the youth until the campers started getting ready for bed. Jay McGirt taught the group how to make the beautiful pucker toe moccasins. McGirt has the vast knowledge of Mvskoke tribal attire for both men and women and has participated in several exhibits throughout the country.

The week long activities included computer training by Richard Anderson of Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. Evening sessions were taught flutemaking by Georgia and Scott Harjo. Mary Frye made a flute that she actually felt turned out a good sound. Recreations was provided by Cedric Sunray a Mvskoke/Choctaw stickball game. Mary Mauldin told “Tolose Cate” and Mary Walters told “Cat married the dog” and “how the opossum got his bald tail, Rabbit who was always doing tricks” alternated the story teller hours. Each evening Mvskoke hymns were performed by Concharty Methodist youth group.

Friday’s activities were short. The campers were preparing for their return to their homes some as far away as Alabama. The group was presented with an awards ceremony, recognition of guests and presentation gift bags, which consisted of a MP3 player and DVD players. The final day was filled with tears for the newly found friends. Some are planning for the next camp, some hope that it be sooner, some hope for it to be longer. A final prayer for a safe return to their homes for all participants.

In all, the Mvskoke Language Camp was not only a camp in which the Mvskoke language was taught, but a means of reaching out native youth to give them confidence in their everyday lives by empowering them with their own culture. With programs like this instilled, the promise of a stronger more self assured Mvskoke youth culture is very close on the horizon and with that comes the elevation of the Mvskoke Creek Nation as a whole.

In the late 1800’s, we were forced to abandon our language and culture. In this century, we will encourage, nourish and fulfill the need to continue to be as one truly beautiful language Mvskoke. While other nations and ethnic groups are trying to find themselves, our people know that they have been true to themselves in generations past and in generations to come. The government defines tribes by whether or not they have a language, and the Mvskoke people will for years to come with the tribe that support, such as the Mvskoke Language Immersion Camps. The Mvskoke people are lucky to have a administration to support the dreams of keeping the Mvskoke language alive!

SOMETHINGMVSKOKE

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE NUMBER WORD SEARCH

CIRCLE OR MARK THE MVSKOKE NUMBERS

N	P	R	L	N	N	H	C	H
E	A	S	T	E	N	V	E	O
K	L	O	C	P	W	M	N	K
A	E	S	F	E	O	K	V	K
P	N	T	H	K	R	E	P	O
V	U	E	Y	H	V	N	A	L
L	W	N	O	A	P	S	K	E
U	T	U	T	C	E	N	E	N
K	N	E	K	A	P	E	N	O
O	S	T	V	P	A	K	E	N

1. KU-LV-PA-KEN
- SEVEN
2. OS-TEN
- FOUR
3. OS-TV-PA-KEN
- NINE
4. E-PA-KEN
- SIX
5. HOK-KO-LEN
- TWO
6. PA-LEN
- TEN
7. HV-M-KEN
- ONE
8. CAH-KE-PEN
- FIVE
9. TUT-CE-NEN
- THREE
10. CE-NV-PA-KEN
- EIGHT

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE SPRING RAINS AND SPRING WATER MONSTERS

HOFONVKE...A long time ago, our people told accounts of the spring rains and water monsters. We were told that as a people we should not go around the waters — ponds, lakes, streams, creeks, and rivers — during the big rains. Why? We were told that the water monsters—‘STAK WV NAYV—were just waking up from their deep sleep and that the monsters were hungry. We were also told that these water monsters could put you in a trancelike state and call you into the waters. If you hear that pigs and other animals drown in the

waters, then it is probably something along that line.

There is one account that the river bridge near Sand Creek Church in Wetumka, Oklahoma, has a big dent in the steel structure from one of those water monsters moving to another area. The elders who are already gone from this earth told that the monster was so big that it hit its head on the steel and left the dent when it moved to other waters.

If you have heard similar accounts, please share with us so that we are able to preserve these accounts.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE FISHING TERMS

BOAT	PERRO
FISH	RVRO
TROUT	CALO
CATFISH	CVLFO
WORM	KAFVNAKV
CRAWDAD	SVKCO
SPEAR FISHING	SAK SE KE YETV
NOODLING	‘STENKE SAK HO PO YETV
FISHING	RVRO MAK WIKV
CAUGHT FISH	AK KE SAKAT
CAST A REEL	SAK KV FVL LETV
THROWING (A LINE)	SV FVL LETV

RELIGION

Free Gospel Concert

HENRYETTA — A free gospel concert will be held Sept. 1 at the Henryetta High School auditorium.

Featured groups will include Three Bridges-Nashville, TN, Gospel Lights from Henryetta, and The Newtons from Muskogee.

The concert will begin at 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. For more information contact Herb Billy at (918) 652-9959.

Three Bridges is a trio of men with their lives bridged to Jesus Christ (thus the name Three Bridges) who have accepted God's calling to encourage believers and bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost though their music ministry.

Following the release of their critically-acclaimed, 2002 album, titled "Soldiers", Three Bridges has wowed packed out venues across the nation, everywhere from business conventions, churches, political meetings, and TV shows all the way to Air Force One.

Nominated for Breakthrough Artist of the year at the Annual Southern Gospel News Music Award Nominations for 2003, Southern Gospel

Music Guild for the Harmony Awards' New Artist of the Year 2004, Southern Gospel Music Forum for the Diamond



Awards' Horizon Group of the Year 2004, Four nomination-Annual Southern Gospel News Music Award Nominations for 2005, Singing news magazine fan awards for Trio of the Year 2005, Southern Gospel Music Guild for the Harmony Awards' Song of the Year 2006.

Their last eight radio singles have been in the top 40 on the Southern Gospel Music Charts, garnering them four top 10 hits and one #1.

Known for their tight harmony, unique vocal style and their exciting energy packed stage presentation, Three Bridges is an internationally acclaimed group. They have entertained millions with their recordings, television and personal appearances.

The trio consists of Eliot McCoy who is manager and baritone for the group, Mitch Kenitzer on lead and Dave McVay on tenor. Although from varied backgrounds and hailing from different parts of the country, God brought these three men together for His purpose and His Glory. They minister at business conventions, churches, school auditoriums,

or wherever God calls them to spread His work through music. Invite them to be a part of your next event, concert or church service. You will be blessed. For more information visit: www.threebridges.net or contact Beckie Simmons at (615) 595.7500 or by email at beckie@bsaworld.com.

Falls Creek 2007



DAVIS — Falls Creek is the nation's largest Youth Camp. It has the largest ropes course in the country and year after year, young peoples' lives are changed in extraordinary ways. Just last summer, 2,090 students accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior, and over 5,240 made a public decision.

Join Cornerstone Student Ministry as we once again heat to "The Creek!" This year promises to be better than ever! With the opening of the new, indoor tabernacle, you will step into worship with over 5,000 students from over 100 different churches! Falls Creek 2007 is June 18 - 23, 2007.

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

FUN FEST

TWIN HILLS/BEGGS — Concharty will be hosting a Free Fun Fest on July 7.

The location is four miles North of State Hwy 16, on Bixby Road, and 1 mile East. (From Tulsa, go South on Memorial, past Allen Ranch, the Bixby Road, Turn Right.)

Everyone welcome, must bring your lawn chairs. There will be a cookout with hamburgers and hotdogs, lots of fun and games.

Starts at 4 p.m. For more informa-

tion please call (918) 366-8450.

FAMILY REUNION

The McCombs Family Reunion will be held at Tuskegee Church west of Eufaula on July 7.

This annual reunion was started in 1914 at the call of the Reverend William McCombs.

William McCombs was born in 1844 east of Ft. Gibson to Samuel and Susan Stinson McCombs, his mother was half-Creek and half Cherokee.

He was educated in government

Indian schools at the age of 17 enlisted in the First Creek Regiment in the Confederate cause.

After the war, he relocated to a farm nine miles west of Eufaula in 1965. Raised a Methodist, he was converted under the influence of Baptist missionaries and began to preach at the age of 23

He served six terms on the Creek Council, served as Superintendent of Public Education for the Tribe for four years, and another four years on the Supreme Court bench.

His last official rank for the Creek

Nation was as interpreter for Governor Pleasant Porter.

He was also instrumental in the founding of Bacone College in Muskogee.

The Reverends McCombs was married to Sally Jacob (full-blood Creek) and their children were Lizzie, wife of James Colbert; Sudie, wife of William Bumgarner; Susie, wife of Peter R. Ewing; William P., married to Alice Leblance; Bettie, wife of Charles H. Drew; and George W., married to Bessie Carr.

The descendants, relatives, and

close friends of these families reunite each year to honor our ancestors.

REVIVAL

Randall Baptist Church will be hosting a Revival on June 21-23. Beginning nightly at 7:30 p.m. with Mitchell Taylor on the 21, Norman Daniels on the 22, and Robert Washington on the 23.

Randall Baptist is located one mile south on Wilson Road then one mile west.

For more information, contact Roman Harjo at (918) 758-0323.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Shalayna Michelle Bell

TULSA — Beatrice and Michael Bell Jr. are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Shalayna Michelle Bell. She was born on March 25, at 7:01p.m. at the OSU Medical Center in Tulsa. Shalayna is Creek and Choctaw. Her grandparents are Brenda Howell and the Late Jodie Howell, Pam Burris and Michael Bell Sr. Her great grandparents are Beatrice Deere and the Late Jackson Deere, Ruth Jefferson and Jimmy Jefferson.



BIRTHDAYS

Mallory Jordan Rivas

HENRYETTA — Mallory Jordan Rivas celebrated her 2nd birthday on April 7, at Yardeka Community Center, with a “Dora” theme. Those attended were her family and friends. She is the daughter of Victor Rivas Jr. (Freddy) and Ashley Bruner. Maternal grandparents are Emma and William Wind of Herndon, VA and Harry Tulsa of Henryetta. Paternal grandparents are Lena Rivas of Depew and Victor Rivas Sr. of Illinois. Mallory is the great granddaughter of Rosie Bruner and the Late Jackson Bruner of Henryetta.



Emily Yonayv Fixico

NORMAN — Yonayv Fixico celebrated her second birthday on November 18th at home with an Elmo party. Among those attending were relatives: Susie, Allen, and Meske Wind of Okemah and Patsy Bucktrot of Bixby. Fixico is Ecovlke and is the daughter of Nokosvlke. She is the granddaughter of Hvlpvtvlke and Aktvyahcvlke. Fixico belongs to Ocevpofv and is the daughter of Apehkv. She is the granddaughter of Kvsehtv and Vcenv Hvcce Tvlse. She was born on Nov. 17th to Stephanie Berryhill and Johnny Fixico, both of Norman. Her maternal grandparents are Jo Ann Skaggs of Yately, England and Michael and Julia Berryhill of Schuler. Her paternal grandparents are the late Robert and Mamie Fixico, Holdenville. She is the adopted granddaughter of Timmy and Joyce Thompson of Yardeka. Fixico’s great-grandparents are: the late Drennon and May Bell Hawkins Skaggs; the late Thomas and Blanch Pakoska Berryhill; the late Tom and Lily King Thompson; and the late Wadie and Fannie Factor Fixico. She has three siblings: Jennifer and Jason Fixico of Moore and Eco Barnett of the home. Fixico enjoys going to the ceremonial grounds, eating tosenv and pizza, and drinking oesofke.



Eco Tasahce Barnett

NORMAN — Eco Tasahce Barnett celebrated his eighth birthday on March 31st at “Pump It Up” inflatable party zone. Among those attending were relatives: Roger, Rachel, and Zachary Barnett and Keoni DaCosta, all of Bristow; J. Scott Fife of Beggs; and Seneca Fixico and Cheyenne Irvin, both of Moore. Barnett is Ecovlke and is the son of Hotvlkvlke. He is the grandson of Hvlpvtvlke and Katcvlke. Barnett belongs to Ocevpofv and is the son of Kvncate. He is the grandson of Kvsehtv and Apehkv. He was born on April 1st to Stephanie Berryhill, Norman, and Roger Barnett, Bristow. His maternal grandparents are Jo Ann Skaggs of Yately, England and Michael and Julia Berryhill of Schuler. His paternal grandparents are Rachel and the late Joseph Barnett, Bristow. Barnett’s great-grandparents are: the late Drennon and May Bell Hawkins Skaggs; the late Thomas and Blanch Pakoska Berryhill; the late Solomon and Nicey Tecumseh Wilson; and the late James and Lizzie Starr Barnett. He has three sisters: Chenoa and April Barnett of Okmulgee and Yonayv Fixico of the home. Barnett is a second grade student at Madison Elementary and is a member of the chess club. He recently was named a Kiwanis Terrific Kid for the month of April. He received the award in recognition of “a positive attitude, good character, and responsible citizenship.” Barnett enjoys playing video games, tag, and reading books.



April Oskee Barnett

OKMULGEE — April Oskee Barnett turned one year old on Sunday, April 29, 2007. She celebrated with a “Fairy-Tale Unicorn” theme party on April 28, with her sister Chenoa and her brother, Eco plus a host of family and friends. April is the daughter of Stephanie Good Voice of Okmulgee and Roger Barnett of Bristow. Her maternal grandparents are Sally Good Voice and the late Kenneth Good Voice of Okmulgee. Her paternal grandparents are Rachel Barnett and the late Joseph Barnett of Bristow. April is of the Raccoon Clan and of the Muscogee Creek/Rosebud Sioux tribes.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Morales Family

By Kelly Bray Sports Editor The Indian Journal

EUFULA — Boxing a knockout for Eufaula Father and sons Martin Morales, Sr. always loved boxing. He remembers the first time his father took him to a fight. He was five years old and the sport grew on him. Today, Morales has three sons of his own, all three have taken up his love. The three boys, Martin Jr., 12, Fabian, 10 and Aaron, 8 train in their fathers garage. But the older Morales hopes to change that in the near future. “We’re looking for a building, right now,” Morales, Sr. said. “I know they used to have boxing here (Eufaula) years ago and I would like to bring it back. But right now we have to train in my garage.” Morales and his family moved to Eufaula five months ago. He began as a volunteer parent for the boxing team in Woodward and then one day found himself in the role of coach. “Before I knew it, I was doing all of it,” he said of running the club. “I never did get to fight, but I grew up with seven older brothers and began training. So I do have some experience.” We used to train in the old armory in Woodward. I’m hoping that we can get some people to volunteer their time, maybe a sponsorship and a building.” All three boys won their last fights in Anadarko over the weekend. And before that have won three consecutive weeks. Next up is a card in Hutchinson, Kansas, then to Oklahoma City the next week. “There is a lot of boxing in this area,” Morales said. “When we were in Woodward, we would have to travel a long way.” “But you have boxing clubs in Fort Gibson, McAlester, Oklahoma City, Anadarko, several in Arkansas.” Morales hopes to take his sons to a world tournament sponsored by the USA Amateur Boxing Association at Kansas City, MO., August 1-5. “There will be over 1,500 boxers from all over the country there,” he said. “It’s a chance to see how well these boys stack up against some really good fighters.”



Chris Minyard

HENRYETTA — The Oklahoma Retired Educators Association will honored 48 educators from across the state of Oklahoma on May 18, at its annual convention held at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. The honorees are recognized as members of the Association’s VIM (Very Important Member Project, a state OREA project designed to honor members of local retired teachers associations. Local units choose their own VIM or VIMs. Honorees will have a brief life story and picture placed in the Oklahoma Archives of the University of Central Oklahoma’s Library and at the Oklahoma Historical Society. Designation as a VIM is a coveted award, and the stories about members are both interesting and informative, often showing persons who overcame the adversities of the Great Depression days and survived World War II. Some schools attended or taught by VIM members no longer exists, and their biographies may be the only historical record of their existence. A look at the VIM Roll of Honor would recall many leaders of the past, including past presidents, classroom teachers, principals, and school administrators. The VIM Project began in 1990 with nine members. This year there are forty-eight. Minyard, a Henryetta Educator retiree, will be one of 48 honored. At the year of her retirement she served as Director of the Henryetta Gifted Program - Testing and Curriculum development, as well as teaching science and social studies. Minyard is married to Tony Minyard and has one son, Terry and wife Debbie. She is a tribal citizen and of the Bear Clan. Minyard also has two grandsons, Cody and Seth Minyard.



Audrey McCall

GLENPOOL — Audrey McCall is the 2006-2007 NASA (Native American Student Association) princess. She was elected at the beginning of the year by the Native American Student Association. Her parents are Joanie Rabbit. Her grandparents are Emond and the late Audrey “Tiny” Rabbit. Her Great Grandparents are the Late Edna Rabbit, Emond Rabbit, Roy Harry and Ada Fox. Her brothers are Jonathan McCall, James McCall, Alex Gatzman and Lance Gatzman and her sister is Chasity Humphrey. She belongs to the Turtle clan. Audrey is planning on attending Bacone College and majoring in business. She is a shell shaker and participates in the ribbon dance at Duck Creek ceremonial grounds. Audrey represented NASA in the Glenpool homecoming, NASA stomp dance and winter homecoming court.



Wedding Announcement

McEmore & Howell

WELTY — Kimberly Marie Howell and Taron Deere McEmore were married on March 24 at Grant Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. Richmond Car officiating. A reception also followed. The bride is the daughter of Brenda Howell and the Late Jody Howell. She is the great granddaughter of Beatrice Deere and the Late Rev Jackson Deere. Howell graduated from Glenpool High School, she is Creek and is of the Beaver Clan and her Tribal Town is Thlopthlocco.



SPOTLIGHT

Creek Woman defies odds, pursues degree

"I was never expected to complete my ninth grade education, and to no ones surprise I didn't. So at the age of 17. I sent myself to Talking Leave Job Corps in Tahlequah, Oklahoma with one goal on my mind, to complete my GED. After nine months of hard work and determination in May of 2001, I received my GED."

SHAWNEE — The past month marks a special time in young people's lives all over the nation, that's if they are graduates of a High School or College. All the years and investment of the goal of obtaining a higher education level is to be recognized and commended.

In Indian country, parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles and everyone involved in the family spectrum will take time to celebrate and beam in pride over the accomplishments of their young Indian student(s) getting over a major hurdle in their lives.

It seems as though this is the time of year when renewal is certainly appropriate for the occasion. Perhaps its the time of spring when the visible evidence is right before us, of new life.

Maybe the harsh realization of a cold winter is also symbolic of the educational course as well. How the undesirable conditions when all can seem to be lifeless and dormant. A dark and grey sky can seem to be all that their is to the present. The future looks the same, by the demonstration that their is no light at the end of the proverbial tunnel.

But the winter is where the growing actually starts, the opportunity to see things through, the facts of perserverance, stability and just a dogged determination of making it, no matter what, this is when character is built and direction begins.

The MNN highlights recent graduates and certainly allows Creek families to announce their graduates accomplishments.

Sometimes it's good to take a closer look, though, at the specific graduate and how the reaching of an academic goal has really affected this or her life, and helped them to totally turn around their course.

Often is the example in many of the graduates lives, and is not a stretch to say, that this specific goal of walking across a stage and shaking a Principal, Superintendent, or President's hand for a degree has not only changed their lives, but actually helped to save it.

The recent spotlight article that was in the April issue featured Katie Grounds and her graduation from Dartmouth University. The purpose of this story was not to just present someone graduating from an Ivy League school, but to present a Native American person succeeding in school and making the most of her opportunities.

The response to the article has been overwhelming, many of our MNN readers have shared their stories of their graduates and the success stories that they know as well. The information that has been submitted is greatly appreciated and with this time of year being the season of commencement, we wanted to share a another story of

"I grew up in a household of extended family members where almost all the adults abused alcohol regularly."

how one Indian woman is climbing the ladder of education and becoming a good example of what one can do when they are committed to a goal.

Too many times, the opposite can be reported in this and other tribal newspapers across the country about how an American Indian student(s) has decided to fail and make a few wrong decisions in their life. How the sometimes 'low depths' of life can be spring boarded into the highness of achievement. The story of Amanda Ramirez is a story that can probably be told from just about any culture or background, but it happens to be a Native American success story. Here is the story of Amanda Ramirez, in her own words.

I, Amanda (Morgan) Ramirez, am a proud member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

I was raised by my mother and grandmother. I grew up in a household of extended family members where almost all the adults abused alcohol regularly. We had no running water so we had to walk to the near by church to get buckets of water.

This same nearby church is where my grandmother would always take me and all my cousins on Sunday mornings. We learned the Native Church's ways and learned many Creek hymns. My father disowned me as a small child so I never knew him. I was nine years old when I was told that he was drunk walking along the highway and a car hit him, he died.

My mom and little brothers moved out around the age of nine. I know what it is like to do without a lot of things. However, when I think of it, it wasn't that bad because I was raised by people who loved me.



At the age of 12, I became a trouble maker who didn't listen to anybody. I lived a life of drugs, alcohol and probation. I gave my mother and grandmother a lot of heartaches and pain. They loved me at my very worst and I couldn't see it. I kept this up for five years.

I was never expected to complete my ninth grade education, and to no ones surprise I didn't. So at the age of 17, I sent myself to Talking Leaves Job Corps in Tahlequah, with one goal on my mind, to complete my GED. After nine months of hard work and determination, on May of 2001 I received my GED.

With plans of maybe going to college at Haskell, I found out that I was pregnant. After my son was born I went back to my "old ways" of drinking and partying, while at the same time thinking less and less of myself. I came to a point in my life thinking "this can't be all there is to life". While looking at my lifestyle I knew that having my baby boy was the greatest blessing and it was now time for me to "grow up" and face my responsibilities.

My grandmother had a huge impact on my life. She loved me no matter how much of a failure I was in school and in life. She was always there with open arms and never blamed me or scolded me. She always told me she loved me and I was going to be okay.

I lost my grandmother when I was 19. I was devastated by her death. I remember a pastor at my grandmothers wake service saying that the only way to honor my grandmother was to live my life for Jesus Christ just as she did. A few weeks after the death of my very close grandmother, I gave up drugs and alcohol once and for all. I made a personal commitment to go back to school and heal myself through the church.

I went to Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee and completed the vocation in Office Management Technology.

After completing my certificate at Gordon Cooper, I went to Seminole State College to complete my pre-requisites for the University of Oklahoma College of Allied Health, while at the same time, my Associate of Science Degree. While attending Seminole State College (Fall of 2005), I was inducted into the Alpha Theta Nu Chapter Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. I served as Vice-President of Scholarship for the spring of 2006, and Vice-President of Service for the spring of 2007.

I was also nominated for Distinguished Chapter Member of Alpha Theta Nu Chapter Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society where the conference was held in Seattle Washington. I have been involved with Phi Theta Kappa's community service projects for the American Cancer Society, as well as other groups.

I was recognized as Who's Who Among College Student's for Outstanding Merit and Accomplishment. This past April, I was presented the 2007 Outstanding Participant Award at the National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference (NINAETC).

I was one of the three individuals honored at this event held in Newport, Rhode Island. I was nominated by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and prevailed over nominees from more than 200 tribes in the United States. The NINAETC is part of the Department of Labor and annually recognizes distinguished student employees.

I am an Indian Health Service Scholarship Recipient. I have a 3.55 G.P.A. and graduated with my Associate of Science Degree in May of 2007.

I have been accepted into the University of Oklahoma College of Allied Health to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Radiologic-Technology-Radiography. OU is very competitive and is the only college in Oklahoma that offers a Bachelor's degree in radiography. There were around 100 applicants that applied and only 30 were accepted.

My goals are to get the best educational training I can in the medical field. I plan on continuing my education at the University of Oklahoma College of Allied Health in Oklahoma City where I will begin in the fall of 2007. Upon completion of my Bachelor's degree in radiog-

raphy, I plan to make a difference in my Indian people's lives through my career as a health professional. I realize that the Indian nations are in need of qualified health professionals that will be able to provide quality health care to Indian patients. In order to sow back into the lives of my Indian people, I will go above and beyond in my health career. Me and family plan on relocating but not sure where at this time. My options are pretty widespread across the U.S.

I would like to thank God for giving me hope and a future and my family and friends for their continued support. I would also like to thank the Muscogee Creek Nation higher education program for continuing financial assistance in reaching my educational goals.

I also like to thank the Citizen Potawatomi Nation employment and training program for giving me employment while in school. I am proud of who I am and where I came from. I have beat the odds and found my purpose in this life through perseverance, determination and never giving up. I am sorry that my grandmother isn't here today to see what has become of my life and that I was listening the whole time. So, in loving memory of my grandmother, Mrs. Josephine Morgan, I dedicate all my hard work and achievements to her. I miss you and think about you everyday.

I am married to Carlos Ramirez and we have one five year old son Izaia, who is the joy of our lives. I am the daughter of David and Ellen Lena of Okemah. I am the granddaughter of the late Josephine Morgan of Morris. I have two brothers, Sonte and Tyler Lena.

I am an active member of Faith Christian Church and am currently attending summer school at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. I am currently employed for the summer at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services Radiology Department.

Amanda Ramirez is a good story to read about. One of the goals of the spotlight page is to, well, spotlight a deserving Muscogee (Creek) person who is trying their best. That is all the people like Amanda Ramirez are doing, trying their best, and making it.

So if someone is considering throwing in the towel by just wondering if they can even make it from day to day, if the pressures of life in general and the demands of it are just too much to bare, they don't need to look any further for inspiration than this Muscogee (Creek) citizen to get a boost of courage and realize the path to a new life begins with just one step in the right direction. Ask Amanda about choosing a new step, it worked for her, as it has for many Indian people.

The story of Amanda Ramirez started out tough and could have ended that way. Her story is a good example of how one can make it, if they are willing to try.

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OBITUARIES

KOZY BUCKLEY, JR.

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Kozy "Uncle June" Buckley, Jr. were held on May 17 at the Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Harry Anderson officiating and Rev. J.B. Fish assisting.

Kozy was born January 7, 1959 in Weleetka, to Kozy Buckley and Lorene Jackson Buckley.

Buckley was raised in Weleetka and attended Weleetka School and graduated in 1977.

Following graduation he attended OSU Tech in Okmulgee where he received training in auto body repair.

As a young man he was married to Laverne Thompson and to this union a daughter, Mallory, was born.

He entered the mental health field, first working as an aid at Hissom in Enid and later being

transferred to Eastern State Hospital in Vinita. He gave some twenty years of service to the Oklahoma mental health care system.

His hobbies included being outdoors and fishing, and spending time with his family and most of all his daughter, nieces, and nephews, he was also a big fan of rock and roll music.

Kozy was preceded in death by his grandparents, Rufus and Gussie Buckley, Luella and Timmie (Okcvnpvla) Jackson, his parents, two sisters: Nancy Frazier and Wanda Ward.

Survivors included: daughter Mallory of Tulsa; brother Michael Buckley and wife Olivia of Maryland; three sisters: Rhonda Ellig and husband Gary, Gussie Buckley, Belinda Hicks and husband Charlie, Jr. all of Weleetka; a half brother Herchel Buckley and wife Sharon of California; a half sister: Beverly Buckley of Texas; eight Jackson uncles: Tecumseh, Billy Joe, Louie, Joe, Jackie, Andrew, Robert, and Jacob; two aunts: Suzanna Marshall and Betty Hill; along with several nieces, nephews, which includes a special nephew Eric Buckley of Weleetka; and a special friend Johnny Watson of Weleetka, other relatives and many friends.

Pallbearers were Anthony (Kono) Barnett, Ronnie Sunday, Carl McKillip, Eric Buckley, Albert Harjo, Brian Buckley, Tatle Lewis, and Rylan Hicks.

Honorary bearers included Sherman Micco, Bobby Ray Lewis, (Little) Mike Buckley, Leonard Frazier, and Sonny Givens, Jr., Gary Ellig, and Johnny Ray Watson.

Interment was at the Sand Creek Cemetery.

CHESTER FIELDS

WELEETKA — Funeral Services for Chester Fields were held May 12 at the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Marvin Lowe officiating.

Chester was born on September 5, 1931 in Weleetka to Robert and Melissa Fields.

He was a member of Arbeka Indian Baptist Church.

He was an Ambulance driver, served as a Deputy Sheriff, as well as being a funeral service professional in Eufaula for many years.

He was preceded in death by both parents, one sister Leona, one brother Jeff, wife Mable, one beloved daughter Virginia, and one beloved son Taylor.

Survivors included daughters, Judy Morsette of Eufaula and Ramona Tainpeah of Shawnee; Son, Chester Eugene Fields of Canada; 13 grandchildren, and numerous great grandchildren, and four nephews, one niece.

Pallbearers were grandsons Chebon Holt, Robert Holt, Bryan Holt, Jai Tainpeah, Hayden Fields, Taylor Fields Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers included: Ray Tainpeah, Jimmy Fields, Roger Fields, Larry West, Bill West, and Sherman West.

Interment was at the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

ABNER HARJO

HANNA — Funeral services for Abner Lee Harjo were held May 14 with Reverends Woody Fields and Gene Harjo officiating.

Abner was born on July 9, 1951 in Talahina to Cilla Mae Harjo.

Abner was raised in Wetumka by his Grandmother Rosie Harjo.

He attended school for a short time at the Seneca Indian School in Wyandotte.

He spent most of his years in the Wetumka public schools.

Abner was known to be a roofer. His hobbies included fishing.

He was also a Veteran having served with the US Marine Corps.

Abner was preceded in death by his Mother and four half brothers.

Survivors included three half brothers: Danny Mitchell of Seminole, Johnny Mitchell of Norman, and Anthony Mitchell of Texas; two half sisters: Taina Mitchell Hicks of Ada, and Judith Garza of Shawnee.

Interment was at the Mitchell Family Cemetery.

VIVIAN JACKSON

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Vivian Maxine Jackson were held May 25, 2007 at the Second Baptist Church with Reverend Jeff Vernon officiating.

She was born on July 5, 1931 to Willie and Lena (Chisholm) Berryhill in Okemah. Vivian grew up in Okemah and attended school in Pharoah.

She was a member of the Second Baptist Church in Okmulgee and lived in the Okmulgee County area most of her life.

Her hobbies included crocheting, quilting and spending time with her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Eugene Jackson; parents, one sister and two brothers.

Survivors included: daughter,

Zeborah Smith and husband, Paul of Okmulgee; two sons: Robert G. Jackson and wife Laura, Joseph A. Jackson all of Okmulgee; fourteen grandchildren and twenty-one great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Joe, Keith, Robert, Brandon, Shane Jackson, and Lena Baldridge.

Interment was at the Fort Gibson National Cemetery.

STEPHEN JACOBS

CHECOTAH — Graveside services for Stephen Jacobs were held May 17 at the Greenlawn Cemetery with Rev. Kenneth Loma officiating.

Stephen was born on June 26, 1924 in Eufaula to Joseph and Nancy (Lowe) Jacobs.

He graduated from Eufaula High School in 1945. He then received his Associates Degree from Haskell Institute in Lawrence, KS.

His hobbies included boxing, fishing, and playing all sports, his favorite being baseball.

He received the Boxer Golden Glove and earned the title of Oklahoma State Championship Boxer.

He was a member of the New Arbor Church.

He is preceded in death by his parents; three sisters: Sara, Josephine, and Samaria; three brothers: Newmon, Alec, and Willie.

Survivors included his sister, Betty Jacobs and husband Rex of Muskogee; a host of nieces and nephews.

PAUL JONES

OKEMAH — Funeral service for Paul Jones were held May 15 at the McClendon-Winters Chapel with Rev. Bridge Chuckluck officiating.

Paul was born in Okfuskee County on October 24, 1945 to Walter and May (Yahola) Jones.

He attended college at Haskell Indian Nation University and OSU-Okmulgee.

He worked as a Lithographer for Lawrence Laboratory in Livermore, California until he retired.

Paul was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in the Philippines and Vietnam.

He was a member of the Motesoma Baptist Church and the Creek Nation.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors included four sisters: Sally Goodvoice of Okmulgee, Pauline and husband Amos Rabbit of Okfuskee County, Linda K. and husband Don

Minter of Okmulgee, Ester and husband Joe Berryhill of Okemah; four brothers: Jimmie and wife Jenice Jones of Eufaula, Fred and wife Sandra Kay Jones of Okmulgee, Walter Jones Jr. of Okmulgee, Loper and wife Faye Jones of Shawnee; an uncle and aunt Harry and Geneva Douglas of Okemah, several nieces and nephews and other relatives.

Pallbearers were Patrick Jones, Bryan Jones, Justin Jones, Jered Jones, Loper Yahola Bear Jones, Tim Goodvoice, Kenny Goodvoice, T.J. Goodvoice, Jeremy Goodvoice, and Randy Minter.

Honorary Pallbearers included Bill Buckner, Amos Rabbit, Joe Berryhill, Don Minter, Johnny Newport, John Rawlings, and Dave Jukich.

Interment was at the Bear Yahola and Jones Cemetery. The Creek Nation Honor Guard will conduct military honors at the grave site.

JEREMIAH MCLAURIN

ROCK CREEK — Funeral services for Jeremiah McLaurin were held May 19 with Rev. Scott Gordon Officiating.

Jeremiah was born to Walter and Bernice McLaurin on June 9, 1937.

Jerry attended Booker T. Washington High School in Sand Springs. After graduating he joined the Armed Services.

He accepted Christ at a very early age and was a faithful member of Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Coyote Trail until he moved his membership to Calvary Baptist Church, Sapulpa.

He was a faithful Deacon under the leadership of one of his own, Pastor Scott Gordon.

In 1961, he married Ida Bell.

He is preceded in death by his wife Ida Bell; his father Walter McLaurin; son Arthur Lee "Dinky" McLaurin.

Survivors included his mother Bernice McLaurin of Coyote Trail; children: Paul Owens of California, Lloyd "Doug" (Rhonda); Gary (Colitta "Lil Bit"), Kathy (Chris "Bay"), and Lora all of Tulsa; Brian of Coyote Trail, Lois "Shana" (Reginald), of Houston, TX., Sherry Lynn (Billy), Stacy (Ken), Scott (Kristi), Donald Ray, all of Tulsa; Purin (Michael) of Broken Arrow; five brothers: William "Jr." (Senora); Webster Lee (Mildred), Donald (Lucinda), Kenneth (Patricia) and Lonnie; four sisters: Carrie, Effie (Charles), Lena (Johnnie), and Velma; mother-in-law Louise Burst; sister-in-law Juanita, Earnestine, Martha Ann, Joann, Janice, and Loretta; brother-in-laws: Willie and Lee; many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. His other family Kevin, Teresa, Ms. Johnnie, Hayden, and Kevin Jr., the twins Tina and Trina, Bill Murray.

Pall Bearers included Deacons of Calvary Baptist Church: Jerry Noble, Albert Sells, Claudis Woodberry, Bill Taylor, Charles Anderson, Ken Holdman, Dwaine Adams, Frank Johnson, Leonard Gordon, Darrin Arnold, Lee Rawlins, Alvin Sells, and Cecil Frazier.

Honorary pallbearer was Cody Randall.

Floral attendants were the Deconess of Calvary Baptist Church: Michelle Taylor, Norma Woodberry, Earlene Gordon, Fairella Yarbrough, Zina Rawlins, Karen Hall, Stacey Holdman, Kristi Gordon, Minnie Sells, Jackie Johnson, Bobbie Adams, Gloria Noble, Aleshia Sells, Tracey Arnold.

Interment was at the Rock Creek Cemetery.

FREEMAN MITCHELL

EUFULA — Funeral services for Freeman Lee (Loga) Mitchell on May 23, at the Eufaula First Baptist Church with Reverend Bill Barnett Officiating.

Freeman was born on May 13, 1950 in Phoenix, AR. to George and Mary (Barnett) Mitchell.

He attended Avondale Elementary school in Avondale, AR. and Mile

Ave. Elementary in Huntington Park, CA. He then attended Gage Jr. High in Huntington Park, CA. and Jackson High School in Los Angeles, CA.

After high school freeman attended Bacone College in Muskogee.

Freeman married Esther Hope in Los Angeles, CA. on March 15, 1971.

He was an artist and his hobbies included spending time with all of his children and grandchildren.

Freeman was preceded in death by a grandson, Aaron Dakota Lee Mitchell; his grandmother, Rhoda Barnett; his mother, Mary Barnett; and a sister, Jeanna Barnett.

Survivors included: his wife Esther, of the home; his sons, Michael Hope and wife Elaine of Muskogee, Richmond Mitchell and wife Lenore of Okay, and Jackie Mitchell and wife Janie of Muskogee; his sisters, Ella

Ruth (Calanie) Bailey of Sun Lakes, AR. and Magdalene (Maggie) Nelson of Muskogee; his Aunt Stella Lena of Seminole; his uncles, Billy Y. Barnett of Shawnee and Jackson Barnett of Okmulgee; and his ten grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Mike Daniel, Phil Scherzinger, Allen Curtis, Micco Wamego, Cate Nelson, and Bradley Barnett.

Honorary pallbearers included his cousins, Leon Lena, Louie Lena, "Dinka" Lena, Benny Lena, Chebon Lena, Lincoln Barnett, Brandon Barnett, Jack Barnett, David Barnett, and Timothy Barnett; his nephews, Murphy Wamego and Jonathan Nelson and a good friend, Ray Masterson.

Interment was at the Polokee-Charles Cemetery.

LENORA WILEY

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Lenora "Sister" Wiley were held on May 10 at the Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev. J.B. Fish officiating.

Lenora was born on July 10, 1950 near Wetumka to Henry Buckley and Lizzie Fish Buckley.

Lenora was raised in the Wetumka and Weleetka areas, attending the Weleetka School. After graduating Weleetka High School in 1968 she attended East Central University in Ada. She later attended Tulsa Junior College where she received an Associates Degree in Accounting.

As a young lady she was married to Charles Wiley.

Lenora began a career with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma where she remained over thirty years. She was currently serving as an Executive Secretary for the Oklahoma Caring foundation.

She was a longtime member of the Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church.

She is preceded in death by: her grandparents Rufus and Gussie Buckley, Eli and Melosie Fish, her parents Henry and Lizzie Buckley, two brothers Johnnie and Charlie Buckley, and a granddaughter Gussie.

Survivors included five children: Dee Ann Buckley of Tulsa, Gina Buckley of Tulsa, Evelyn Jean Wiley of Weleetka, Kathleen Wiley of Albuquerque, NM., and John Wiley of Mannford; five brothers: Jim Buckley of Henryetta, Solomon Buckley of Tulsa, Frankie Buckley of California, Johnas Buckley of McAlester, and Vincent Buckley of Shawnee; two sisters: Marie Asbury of Texas and Angela Golden of Okemah; four aunts: Betty Hill of Okemah, Rosa Lee Manley of Weleetka, Mary Basquez of Wetumka and Wynema Fish of Wetumka; 12 grandchildren, along with several nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Pallbearers were Dylan Buckley, Jimmie Buckley II, Hillis Manley, Daryl Coonhead, Jimmy Basquez, and Anthony Hill.

Honorary Pallbearers included Jimmie Buckley, Kaylan Norton, Curtis Smith, Brent Buckley, Brendan Buckley, Robert Norton, and James Buckley.

Interment was at the Buckley Family Cemetery.

Gratitude

On behalf of Diamond Lexus Coleman Vega, the family would like to thank everyone that made monetary donations at the time of their loss. Also to the neighborhood that helped cook the food.

A special thanks to Rev. Joe Lowe Jr. for the beautiful sermon, to McClendon-Winters Funeral Home, Creek Nation, and to all that helped at the grave site.

Thank you very much, The Vega Family.

On behalf of Johnny Billey, the family would like to thank the Prairie Springs Baptist Church for the services, the food, and the kindness and the love during their time of sorrow.

Thanks to the Lighthorse Police for the escort to the Grant Chapel Methodist Church cemetery and the Creek Nation Honor Guard for the 21 gun salute.

A special thanks to Rev. Richard Fixico for officiating the service.

The Billey Family

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Ready, set,
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32nd Annual National Indian
Tennis Championships

RELIGION C2



Keeping the Legacy Alive

Former Turkey Springs
manager hopes to see fast-
pitch live on with today's
generation



SPOTLIGHT C3

THE SCENE

SECTION C • www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov • JUNE 2007

33RD ANNUAL CREEK NATION FESTIVAL

• Festival officially begins with the crowning of the 2007-2008 Miss Muscogee Nation

HENRYETTA — As a traditional ceremony ground decor set the mood for the entire evening's competition, one young Mvskoke woman's life would change forever. Over 125 where in attendance to witness the crowning of the 2007-2008 Miss Muscogee Nation Princess Samantha Coon on June 1, 2007 at the Henryetta High School Auditorium.

"The Pageant Committee has been working diligently throughout this past year in preparation of the 2007 Muscogee Creek Nation Scholarship Pageant," said Virginia Thomas, Pageant Coordinator. "The Committee has met monthly since the 2006 Pageant and has worked to improve every aspect for the competition. The Pageant Committee is a group of citizens, both employees of the Nation and community volunteers, who believe in setting a positive example for our young women."

As stated in last month's issue in the MNN, the Pageant Committee hopes is to instill a sense of pride within the young Msvkoke women by teaching them were they come from, where they are today and where they are expected to be in the future.

"It has become very evident that the Muscogee Creek Nation Royalty has become the pride and joy of our Nation," said Thomas. "They have served our Nation well as our good will ambassadors throughout the year."

The Pageant Committee has placed a strong emphasis on preparing the royalty for the task before them. The Pageant Committee

oversees the scheduling of the Royalty for the year, chaperone the Royalty to events, and monitors the budget for the Royalty activities throughout the year. One main area the committee has tried to emphasize is the role of women within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the important roles that women have played throughout tribal history.

The committee has worked hard to prepare the Royalty to be the best representatives that the Nation has to offer and help prepare them for their journey during this coming year. The Muscogee Nation Royalty has become one of the most visual aspects of the Nation within the community centers, ceremonial grounds, and churches, as well as state and national events.

"It has been my pleasure to have been asked to be the 2007 Muscogee Creek Nation pageant committee chair and it has been an even greater pleasure to have worked with this group of Muscogee Creek Nation volunteers in preparing for this event," said Thomas.

According to the Pageant Committee, the National Council and the tribal leadership have both been supportive and very instrumental in the overall success of the pageant.

"I would like to give a special thanks to Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill for their support," said Thomas. "Also, a special thanks to all of the Muscogee Creek Nation programs and departments that have been so supportive in allowing their employees to participate as pageant volunteers."

The official Muscogee Royalty for 2007-2008 are: Samantha Coon - Miss Muscogee, Taylor Tiger - Jr.



Samantha Coon receives her crown from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis and Miss Muscogee Nation Princess 2006-2007 Melanie Frye.

Miss Muscogee, Angel Hartley - Little Miss Muscogee Division I, Taiah Ann Sanders - Little Miss Muscogee Division II, Shyla Lane - Little Miss Muscogee Division III, and Etta Dickerson Thompson - Senior Ms. Muscogee.

For their dedication and efforts, the Pageant Committee showed their appreciation to Wilbur Gouge, (Orientations/Training), by presenting him with a Bandolero Bag and also to Marcus Proctor (Miss Coordinator), by presenting him with a plague and a ribbon shirt.

A special thanks from the Pageant Committee to The Chameleon Salon Hairdressers and Makeup Team: Corey Taber, Sonia Ott, Julz Berryhill, Tina Jones, and Jodie Satepauhoodle.

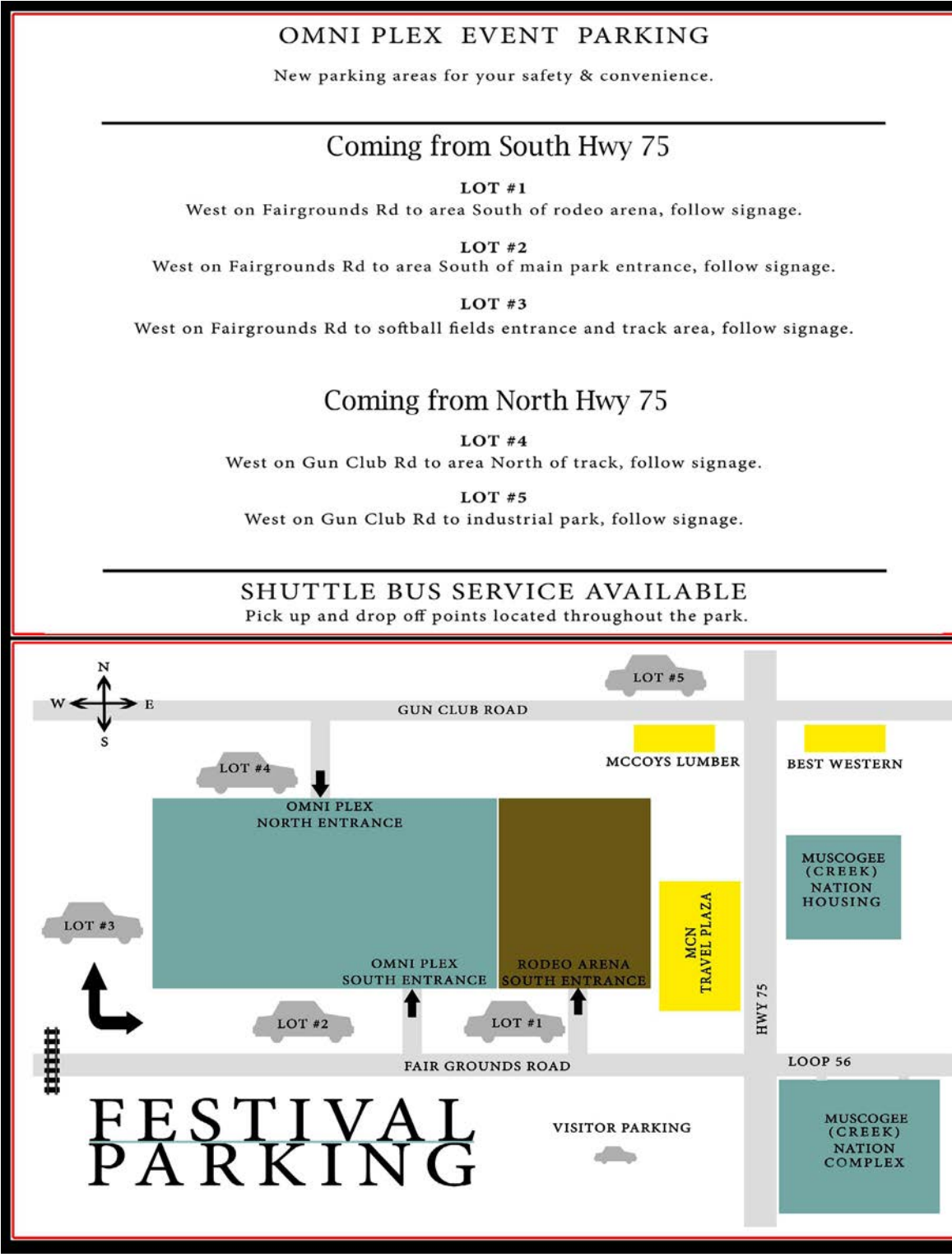
The Pageant Committee would also like to thank the judges: Valerie Little Creek, Edward Rogers, Wade Hall, and Angela Bunner; the escorts: Nathaniel Wind and Spencer Wind; and the door greeters: Fannie Barnett and Louis Hicks.

"We hope that everyone enjoyed the pageant and that they walked away with a deeper sense of pride in the Muscogee Creek Nation," said Thomas. "We are very appreciative to everyone who had a helping hand in the Scholarship Pageant, and would like to thank everyone for their support."

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- THURSDAY - JUNE 14
- Stompdance • Omniplex Amphitheatre • David Proctor • 6:00 pm
- FRIDAY - JUNE 15
- Junior Olympics • Harmon Stadium • Dawn Edwards • 8:30 am
 - Youth Basketball • Okmulgee YMCA • Celesta Johnson • 5:30 pm
 - Elderly Activities • Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center • Donna Martin • 9:00 am
 - Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Dean Williams • 6:00 pm
 - Farmers Market • Omniplex • Lanissa Melton • 5:30 pm
 - Golf Tournament • Muskogee Cobblestone Park • Perry Anderson • 1:00 pm
 - All Indian Rodeo • Omniplex • Bob Arrington • 7:00 pm
 - Traditional Hymn Singing • Omniplex Amphitheatre • Mike Coon • 2:00 pm
 - Concerts • Omniplex Amphitheatre • Selina Jayne • 8:00 pm
 - Arts & Crafts • Creek Council House, Okmulgee • Shelly Been • 5:00 pm
 - Information Booth • Omniplex • David King • 5:00 pm
 - T-Shirt Sales • Omniplex • Ginny Dunn • 5:00 pm
- SATURDAY - JUNE 16
- Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Dean Williams • 8:00 am
 - Creek Hymn Singing • Omniplex Amphitheatre • Mike Coon • 2:00 pm
 - Health Fair • Omniplex • Newman Frank • 9:00 am
 - All Indian Rodeo • Omniplex Arena • Bob Arrington • 7:00 pm
 - Farmers Market • Okmulgee YMCA • Lanissa Melton • 8:00 am
 - Adult Basketball • Okmulgee YMCA • Larry Grounds • 8:30 am
 - Concerts • Omniplex Amphitheatre • Selina Jayne • 8:00 pm
 - 5K Run/Walk • Mound Building • Cheryl Najera • 8:00 am
 - Parade • Downtown Okmulgee • Odette Freeman • 12:30 pm
 - Arts & Crafts • Creek Council House, Okmulgee • Shelly Been • 8:00 am
 - Horse Shoes • Omniplex • Jessie Linsey • 9:00 am
 - Volleyball • Omniplex • Randall Hicks • 9:00 am
 - Living Legends • Omniplex Amphitheatre • Rachel Sumka • 6:00 pm
 - Pow Wow • OSU Covelle Hall • Pete Coser • 1:00 pm
 - Child Saffy Seat • Mound Building • Debra Isham • 9:00 am
 - T-Shirt Sales • Omniplex • Ginny Dunn • 8:00 am
 - Information Booth • Omniplex • David King • 8:00 am
 - Gospel Singing • Omniplex Amphitheatre • Geebon Gouge • 2:00 pm
- SUNDAY - JUNE 17
- Adult Basketball • Okmulgee YMCA • Larry Grounds • 8:30 am
 - Farmers Market • Okmulgee YMCA • Lanissa Melton • 8:00 am
 - Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Dean Williams • 8:00 am
 - Golf Tournament • Muskogee Cobblestone Park • Perry Anderson • 1:00 pm
 - T-Shirt Sales • Omniplex • Ginny Dunn • 8:00 am
 - Health Fair • Omniplex • Newman Frank • 9:00 am
 - Arts & Crafts • Creek Council House, Okmulgee • Shelly Been • 8:00 am
 - Gospel Singing • Omniplex Amphitheatre • Geebon Gouge • 2:00 pm
 - Information Booth • Omniplex • David King • 8:00 am

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FESTIVAL VISIT WWW.MUSCOGEENATION-NSN.GOV



32nd Annual National Indian Tennis Championships held in Tulsa

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

TULSA — The thirty-second annual National Indian Tennis Championships were held in Tulsa during Memorial Day weekend. Tennis players from around the nation participated in the three day event.

Donald Neito, who is served as the coordinator of this year's event, was pleased with the turn out. "It is always special when the annual event comes to Tulsa," said Neito, who is of Santa Domingo Pueblo descent.

Next year's event is slated for Topeka, Kansas. Muscogee (Creek) citizens Floyd and Jerry Bales also helped coordinate the event. The following is a list of tournament champions:

Men's Open Singles Champion, Ralph Skinner, Taos, N.M.;

Men's Open Doubles Champions, Ross Stone and Jim Cunningham;

Men's Intermediate Singles Champion, Vincent Knight, Jr., Albuquerque, NM;

Men's Intermediate Doubles Champions, David Nieto and Thomas Nieto, Lawrence, KS;

Men's 45 and Over Singles Champion, Ross Stone;

Men's 45 and Over Doubles Champions, Jerry Bales, Sand Springs, OK and Paul Harjo, Sand Springs, OK;

Men's 65 Doubles Champions, Bill Lewis, Duncan, TX. and Don Nieto, Lawrence, KS;

Men's 70 and Over Singles Champion, Haskell Jack, Ardmore, OK;

Women's Open Singles Champion, Yawna Allen, Tahlequah, OK;

Women's 45 Singles Champion, Dorothy Saunders, Tulsa, OK;

Women's 45 Doubles: champions: Flores and Pumphrey;

Women's Intermediate Doubles Champions, Barr and Kuper;

Women's 55 Singles Champion, Margaret Knight, Edmond, OK;

Mixed Intermediate Doubles Champions, Barr & Jack;

Mixed Open Doubles Champions, A. Stone and Ross Stone;

Boy's 14 and Under Singles Champion, Jonathan Madrid;

Boy's 18 and Under Singles Champion, David Nieto, Lawrence, KS;

Girl's 18 & Under Singles Champion: Blossom;

Girl's 18 and Under Doubles Champions, Kristin Bales, Sand Springs, OK and Jennifer Quamina, Los Angeles., CA;

18 and Under Mixed Doubles Champions, Jennifer Quamina, Los Angeles, CA. and Logan Powell, Pawnee, OK;

Girl's 14 and Under Singles Champion, Maytubby, OK;

Youth 12 Singles Champion, Kristin Bales, Sand Springs, OK; and

Youth 10 Singles Champion, Jack Barr.

The event is held in coordina-



READY, SET SERVE

Bruce Maytubby prepares to launch a serve to Jerry Bales and Beaver Stanley during the 32nd annual National Indian Tennis Championships. The tournament was held in Tulsa and over 100 Indian athletes competed in the event. Several Muscogee (Creek) citizens faired well in the tournament.

photo submitted

tion with Standing Tall Tennis, a Native American Tennis group, the United States Tennis Association (USTA), and other volunteers. A tennis clinic for children and adults, was also held in conjunction with the tournament.


Standing Tall Tennis, led by Gerry Pasqua, wants more Native Americans involved with the sport. "We're glad with the turnout," says Pasqua. "We just want to see the sport grow more and more with Native Americans in general."

The North American Tennis Association, which coordinates the event, promotes the lifelong pursuit of healthy physical activity for both the youth and adults of North American communities.

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SHOP TALK with GERALD

Well, I hope everyone is safe and sound out there and you're getting a chance to watch some really good sporting events happening out in Creek country and beyond.

Speaking of beyond, I hope everyone has had an opportunity to catch some action from the NBA playoffs. This is the time of year when the stakes get extremely high and the chance to climb to the top of the mountain and say "we are world champions" is so near. As always, the playoff action is intense, but is always fun to watch. It seemed many local fans wanted to really see the Phoenix Suns make their way to the Championship and for a while it looked it just might end up that way. But low and behold, here come the old reliable San Antonio Spurs who always have a say about the NBA finals. The Suns and the Spurs met in the semi-finals of the western conference playoffs. The series was must see TV as the two rivals clashed and battled for supremacy. A good symbolic gesture of the overall series was the proverbial trainwreck between Steve Nash of the Suns and veteran Robert Horry of the Spurs. Horry decided to play a marble statue all of sudden and planted himself right in front of the fast-moving Nash. Irresistible force meets immovable object was not the rule of physics in this meeting as Nash did his impression of Major Tom and almost went spiraling into outer space, but luckily for him the floor was nearby. The incident led to both sides confronting one another with verbal and physical protests.

Horry, the long time NBA veteran who has also had stints with the Los Angeles Lakers, and the Houston Rockets, has seen better days. Maybe the overall talent of the younger talented Nash had gotten the better of Horry, who used to be known for his last second game saving buzzer-beater shots. He seems now reduced to playing the role of a cement pylon block. Maybe he still might hit a



GERALD Wofford
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(918) 732-7635

shot or two, but I think his new found skill of being a heavyweight slug is all he is about now.

A word about my beloved Yankees, it seems as though the boys from the Bronx are really at their wits end now. Ridiculous moves like the ones bringing back Andy Pettitte and Roger Clemens. The way the Yankees are thinking right now, its a wonder that they haven't tried to bring back Reggie Jackson or even Michael Jackson for that matter. Not that the king of pop was ever a Yankee, but you get the idea of how bad it has been in the land that gave us Mickey Mantle and Buckey Dent. Rumors are flying, like the Yankee pop-flies, that long-time Manager Joe Torre's days as skipper will soon be over and he will get his pink-slip as they tell him 'hasta la vista!' What, he doesn't get the chance to be written up first, what happened to 'three strikes and you're out?' (and yes a pun was intended there).

Another sad chance for the team in Navy blue pinstripes to show to pass the buck and try to blame the manager. Why not the general manager? Owner George Steinbrenner has practically handed the keys to the machine to general manager Brian Cashman, If there is really anyone to look at first regarding the Yankee collapse, the magnifying glass must first be put on Cashman.

A recent report says that High School athletics may be soon be under investigation for steroid use. It seems that authorities are realizing the harmful results and quick body building schemes are not just applied to professional athletes anymore. Laws would require more drug tests in public and private schools. Just how they will monitor is unknown at this time, but it will be interesting to see how strictly its monitored. Some kids will have the excuse of having to take medicine that contains anabolic steroids, so what do they say then? Well, Jimmy you can play this Friday, just try to get over that cold soon so the steroids won't influence your performance.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should the Muscogee (Creek) Festival sport events be open to anyone, regardless of race?

GERALD WOFFORD

Well, the festival has certainly grown into its own and with it a unique identity-it is a Native American event and it will always be known as that.

In these modern PC times that we live in, it almost seems everything is becoming racially divided. So much so that you even see the white race crying discrimination, what an irony.

With that said, the Creek festival is a time for Creek

citizens to celebrate, visit family and even renew old friendships.

So let the Creek festival stay the Creek festival, everyone can come and is certainly invited. But for games and events, this is a time for Native Americans to enjoy a special weekend. Long live the Creek festival and keep it in its own unique style.

JASON SALSMAN

Sure they should. I mean come on, it's time to move on past all the racial divisions in just about EVERYTHING that goes on. I think it gets kind of played out when people have to justify their participation in something by the color of their skin. I mean I wouldn't want someone to tell me that I couldn't do something because I was Indian. The important thing here with the Festival is that

we bring people, and lots of them, to our capital to generate interest and diverse revenue ideas for this great Nation. The majority of the non-Indian people that compete in these events are proud to be a part of the Festival anyway. Let's get past all the racial divisions and embrace everyone. I mean we definitely wouldn't turn away non-Indians that are enjoying our tribal casinos.

SPORTS

Keeping the Legacy Alive

• Former Turkey Springs manager hopes to see fast-pitch live on with today’s generation

by Jason Salsman

MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — In the late 70’s about the only thing more guaranteed than seeing a pair of bell-bottom jeans was the Turkey Springs fast-pitch softball team winning games. For opposing squads, seeing Turkey Springs on their side of the tourney brackets was about like watching the original Texas Chainsaw Massacre movie for the first time; it was just plain scary.

The fear was definitely warranted. In a four year span, no fast-pitch team in the area won with more consistency. The length of the team’s catalog of accomplishments during that time closely resembles that of Fat Albert’s grocery list. They nabbed two Class B Oklahoma State Championships in 1979 and 80. They were the Oklahoma City All-Indian Tournament Champions those years as well. A National Tournament Runner-up finish in 1979 was followed by a National Championship in 1980. And when they weren’t busy playing tournaments, which was every weekend, they mowed down the competition in the Tulsa Softball Association league games. When it was all said and done, Turkey Springs had accumulated 410 wins from 1977-1981.

According to team manager/player Grover Wind, however, his team’s dominance never affected their demeanor. “What I was most proud of was the way we conducted ourselves,” recalls Wind. “We respected the game, and we respected it enough to show good sportsmanship, and that all started with Bob.” If you are out there reading this and you know anything about fast-pitch softball, you know that Wind is referring to the late Bob White. White toed the rubber for Turkey Springs and there possibly may never be another



finer pitcher to play the fast-pitch game. “When I think of pitchers I think of Bob White,” said Wind about his good friend and teammate. “He was clocked at 102 mph and had a whole assortment of pitches, but more than anything he was a good man and a good sport.” That sportsmanship and strong character showed by Wind and White trickled down to the rest of the team, which consisted of many Indian men from around the area. Names like Kenny Bunner and Elmer and Edwin Jimboy out of Okmulgee. Ray Barnett, Two-time city batting champ Bob Tressler and tournament assassin Ron “Blackjack” Cassnavoid. I’m sure hearing those names brings back a lot of fond memories for fans of the old fast-pitch days.

For Wind, the fast-pitch days are something that should never be old. “You know I got out in about 1982,” he recalled. “But I’m just so glad to see the next generation of Indian youth keeping alive what has really become a tradition. You look around at those old tournaments, it was the Indian teams that struck fear in the others, the Indian teams that were at the top. We always took a lot of pride in that.” Pride is something that Indian people hold close to them. Being proud of the nation you represent and the ways and customs of your ancestors is a way of life. And as Wind sees it many of our traditions and practices go hand and hand with what he and his teammates and friends got out of playing softball

all those years. “It’s a good clean sport,” he explained. “Really what we got out of it the most was that communal feeling, like a family. Guys brought their families to the park and it was basically what we did. That’s why I feel Native people play so much, is because of that togetherness that you get from it.”

Looking back over the years is always a fond practice for Wind. He often thinks about the guys that he managed, played alongside, thinks about those that have gone on like White and Edwin Jimboy. It’s important to him that their legacy and the mark that they left carries on in today’s time. “To me, you look at today and I can realize how much the times have changed,” said Wind. “For a long time it

THE DAYS GONE BY

Names like Kenny Bunner and Elmer and Edwin Jimboy out of Okmulgee. Ray Barnett, Two-time city batting champ Bob Tressler and tournament assassin Ron “Blackjack” Cassnavoid. Hearing those names brings back a lot of fond memories for fans of the old fast-pitch days.

photo submitted

seemed like fast-pitch was dying out, like nobody was playing anymore. But more and more I think there are people getting interested.”

And the people getting interested are drawing from those that came before them, those that have laid the foundation. Like Wind said, it’s a game of respect and having respect for those who played the game the right way. “One of the things people always told me was your team is never bickering, you guys are always getting along and enjoying yourselves out there, and that’s the kind of thing I want to pass to the younger guys,” said Wind. “We were just a bunch of guys that loved to play ball.” That they did, better than anybody else.

4 Love of the Game ties in Day of Champions softball camp with football camp

by Jason Salsman

MNN Sports Reporter

DEWAR — 4 Love of the Game will be hosting their 1st Annual “Day of Champions” Softball Camp on June 30 - July 1 and Football Camp on July 2, 3, and 4, 2007 for Native American boys and girls in the second through eighth grade (ages eight to 14). Students who will be freshmen in fall are allowed to participate. The Claude Cox Omnplex and Dewar High School football field has been set at the tentative site for the camps.

Nickie Engelbrecht, former All-American at Texas Woman’s University and Director of Operations of the University of Oklahoma Women’s softball, will direct this year’s softball camp. Engelbrecht, a South African native, along with current OU women’s softball players, will be on hand to give one-on-one instruction. This camp will involve skills training and exhibition games as well.

The football camp will feature 2000 Heisman Runner-up and Walter Camp Award recipient Josh Heupel and OU standout linebacker and Dick Butkus Award winner Rocky Calmus. Josh, OU Quarterbacks Coach and Founder of the 14 Foundation, along with his father, Ken, will be coordinating the

football camp. The 14 Foundation, a non-profit organization that gives back to the community, is involved in several charities and every year holds a holiday food drive at the final Sooner home game.

The two day softball and three day football camp focuses on teaching the principles of successful leadership by setting the discipline, then establishing respect, trust and hard work. “Coach (Ken) Heupel said he and Josh really want to reach out to the Native American kids,” said Victor Bear, 4 Love of the Game Board Member. “We’re are very excited about the camp and are glad our organization can make it happen.”

One of the highlights of the football camp is Fantasy Day, where parents team up with campers for competitions with other teams. It’s a fun chance for parents to get involved. “Fantasy Day is a chance for parents and kids to build on their relationships,” said Heupel.

Because of limited funding, the cost for each camp is \$75, nonrefundable, in the form of a money order or cashier’s check. The fee covers skilled instruction, lunch, and a camp T-

shirt. Also, at the end of the camp, a photograph and autograph session will be held. Campers must provide their own transportation to and from the camp.

“This will be such an amazing experience for our youth, not just for the invaluable experience they will take away from it, but just to see all those top notch athletes there investing time in their development,” said Bear “Our main goal is to get our kids the proper training they need in order to compete at a very high level, with a chance of competing at the next level, college or professional.”

The deadline for both camps is June 22. Registration forms must be in by June 18 to receive the camp T-shirts. The camps are limited to 125 participants on of a first come, first serve basis.

“We have a received a good response so far,” said Lucas Taylor, 4 Love of the Game Chairman. “Because of everyone’s hectic day-to-day schedule, a large number of people wait to the last minute to register. Hopefully we can accommodate them all. We want to come as close as we can to the maximum limit so we can justify having these type of activities in the future.”

Registration forms can be downloaded at www.4loveofthegame.org or requested by mail. To mail in or request registration forms, contact 4 Love of the Game at: Day of Champions Softball/Football Camp, Rt. 3 Box 153, Henryetta, OK 74437.



JIM THORPE

NATIVE AMERICAN ALL-STAR FOOTBALL GAME

Jim Thorpe All-Star Game still accepting applications for 2007 game. For more information or to apply visit www.nativeallstar.com

EAST 19

WEST 7

HOT CORNER

Hensci! Hope everyone is doing alright out there. It’s June and I know you guys haven’t forgot about my B-Day, but just in case you have, it’s the 22nd and in lieu of gifts just make checks payable to Jason Salsman and send them to the Communications department. Alright, now that we have the mandatory business out of the way, let’s get down to what’s happening in the sports world.

Haven’t those NHL Hockey playoffs been exciting? You’ll have to tell me if so, because

I haven’t seen a second of them nor do I care to. I mean, they’re just a little drawn out to me, plus the fact that it’s hockey and it’s about as boring to watch as a sewing circle. Anywho, I had better get off that soap box about hockey anyway, because the head coach of the NHL’s New York Islanders is a full-blood Chippewa Indian from the Garden River Ojibwa First Nation Reserve just outside of Ontario, Canada. Not only did Nolan lead the Islanders to the Stanley Cup Playoffs for the first time in 3 years, but he is also a big time Ambassador for Native Americans everywhere. Growing up in Ontario on a reservation, Nolan was exposed to the dark side of Indian life. Poor health and governmental ignorance were things his people dealt with. But most troubling to Nolan was the alarming amount of Natives committing suicide at a young age. Since he was a youth and a friend decided to take his life, Nolan made a decision that when he made it big as a hockey player he would help his people. He made it big as a hockey player and coach and has indeed made good on that promise to himself, by not only putting Native American heritage in a high profile position but getting involved and making a difference as well. He established the Ted Nolan Foundation, a registered charity promoting healthy lifestyle choices in the lives of Native youth. The foundation is involved in many things including charities, hockey schools, scholarships and benefit events with all the proceeds going to the mission of saving and lifting up our Native youth. Ted Nolan is a man who did not forget where he came from and in an ever-changing world is not afraid to stand up and be who he truly is. For that, he is to be commended and admired and I’ll be a fan of any team he ever coaches!! For more information on getting involved in this worthwhile charity or to just check it

JASONSalsman
jsalsman@muscogenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

out, visit www.tednolan.com

Maybe I should switch my sports watching to hockey, because I just can’t stomach the sight of the product the St.

Louis Cardinals are putting on the field this year. I mean, how do we go from World Series champions (man, that still sounds good) to a sub .500 team in a matter of months?! I do know this, it’s killing me because the NBA Playoffs are about to be over and with the Cardinals tripping over their feet it’s going to make for one long summer of waiting on Sooner football.

Speaking of football, all you seniors out there need to be getting your applications in to the Native All-Star football game if you think you got what it takes. My good buddy John Harjo, who also coaches at Idabel High School, coordinates the game and has done a fantastic job with it thus far. This year should be no different. There is an East squad and a West squad and some players come from all over. There has even been Alaskan Natives that have participated. Maybe they should have an All-Star event for ice fishing, ayyyyyy! Anyway, there is still time to get those applications in if you want to participate. Just log on to www.nativeallstar.com and follow the sign up instructions.

Festival hits us this month and as always the softball competitions will be the best. “Without a doubt, the softball competitions are the biggest draw of the festival,” said 2007 Festival coordinator Dean Williams. “That’s where you can find the best of the best.” And Dean should know what he’s talking about he’s nabbed a few MVP trophies in his day. Let me tell ya, on a softball diamond, Big Dean could bring it!

There are a lot of other competitions as well that are fun throughout Festival week(s). You got horseshoes, which you really can’t get anymore Indian than that, there’s volleyball, basketball, youth olympics, etc. It’s a sports lovers paradise. Everyone enjoy the next few weeks, they’re going to be pretty fun. Until next time, you guys be good!

Quote of the month:

“What really counts in sports is not always the victory, but the magnificence of the struggle.”

-Joe Paterno
Head Football Coach, Penn State

Congratulations Graduates

Taryn D. Allen



School: Bacone College
Clan:
Tribal Town: Creek/ Euchee / Choctaw / Cherokee
Parents: Joyce & Lyle Deere; Robert Allen; N.B. Moore and Narcissa Wilson
Grandparents: J. Warren Allen and Hanna Allen
Awards: Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
Degree: Bachelor of Science-Business Administration
Future Plans: Continue work in Casino / Gaming Operations

Joshua D. Castleman



School: Northeastern State University
Tahlequah, Oklahoma Clan: Raccoon clan
Tribal Town: Tulsa
Parents: David and Becky Castleman
Awards: Academic Achievement Award for Bachelor of Arts in Geography, American Indian Merit Award, and the National Dean's List
Grandparents: Joe and Carl Castleman
Activities: Geography-History Club and Guardian member/volunteer at the Tulsa Historical Society
Future Plans: Obtaining a Master's Degree in Museum Studies and finding employment at a museum.

Marissa D. Bear



School: Wilson High School
Clan: Wind
Ceremonial: New Tulsa
Parents: Daniel and Melissa Bear
Grandparents: Ester Burgess Brown and the late Monroe Burgess; Ashley Bear and the late Mary Bear; Liza Leader and the late Barney Leader
Awards: Senior Class President and Co-Salutatorian, Oklahoma Indian Honor Society; Student Council; Gifted and Talented, Talent Search
Activities: Year book; softball; basketball; and cheerleading
Future Plans: Attend Haskell Indian Nations University to play

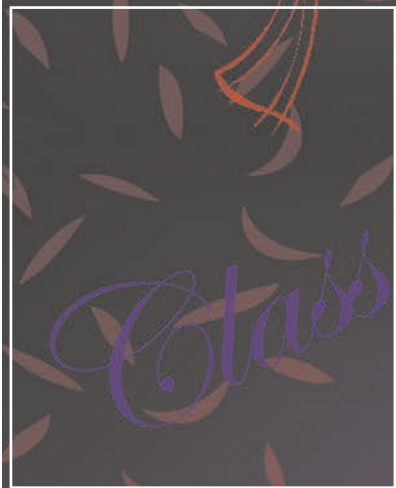
softball and then attend OU Pharmacy School

Andrea N. Caywood



School: Mannford High School
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Hickory Ground
Parents: Andrew and Melissa Caywood
Grandparents: Danny & Neomi Lindsey; Sam and Susan Caywood
Awards: 9,10,11 All District Honorable Mention, (12) All State, 45 goals in four years; (9) 3200 relay 3rd at State; (12) fifth and sixth at State; State Q all four years; 4 years Cross Country; State Qualifier all four years; All- State 12th grade; four years basketball (12) Homecoming Queen; Sadd Student Council; FCA 2 years; NHS 2 years; four years Who's Who Among American High School Students
Future Plans: Attend Bacone College and play soccer and one day to become a teacher and coach.

Tessa L.M. Becenti



School: Westwood High School- Mesa, AZ.
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Nuyaka
Parents: Mary Wamego Romero
Grandparents: Ella Barnett Bailey; Great Grandparents: Mary, Rhoda and Torey Barnett
Awards: People to People Student Ambassador; four years Honor Roll
Future Plans: To attend Arizona State University Tempe, AZ to Study Business

Robyn Culley



School: OSU /Science Accounting Major
Parents: Sharon Whitecloud & Gary Whitecloud of Tulsa Oklahoma
Grandparents: Rena Buck and the late Wiley Sampson & the late Mabel Hill the late Elizabeth Whitecloud and the late Theodore Whitecloud
Awards: Presidents Honor Roll (2 semesters) and Dean's Honor Roll (1 semester)

Lisa L. Bell



Morris High School
Cherokee
Tahlequah, Oklahoma
Parents: Tom Bell and Tonja Bell
Grandparents: Helen Wildcat Bell & Robert Lee Bell Sandra Allen & Charles Allen

Awards: All-State Softball, East Cental All-Region Basketball, All-Conference Basketball, All-Conference Softball, All-Star Softball, Indian National Honor Society, National Honor Society, 2006 Homecoming Queen.
Activities: Fast-Pitch Softball, Basketball, Slow-Pitch Softball, Class Officer,
Future Plans: I plan to attend Saint Gregory's University on a softball scholarship

and major in Pre-Optometry.

Michael E. Endres



School: Morris High School in Morris, Oklahoma.
Parents: Mike Endres, Morris, Oklahoma and Barbara Lane, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.
Grandparents: Ruth Endres of Preston, Oklahoma and Dorothy Pinezaddleby of Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Eugene's siblings are Joy Endres, Terrie Anderson, and Ethan Endres, Morris, Oklahoma.
Activities: playing football and basketball. During the 2006-2007 school year, skill was apparent as he was one of the starting players for the Morris Eagles in both sports, also enjoys spending time with his brother and his friends.
Future plans: to attend OSU-Okmulgee this fall where he will pursue a Bachelor

of Science in Civil Engineering.

Roxanne Carvajal



School: California State University, Long Beach Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town: Cussetah
Parents: Shirley & Rocky Carvajal
Grandparents: Fannie & Cecil Johnson
Awards: Bachelor of Arts in Family & Consumer Sciences: Child Development and Family Studies with an emphasis in Family Life Education
Future Plans: To work with At-Risk Youth

Melanie Frye



School: University of Oklahoma with a B.A. in Anthropology & Native American Studies.
Parents: Johnny Frye and Marion Bunny Frye.
Grandparents: maternal grandparents are the late James Bunny and the late Lucille Smith Bunny. Her paternal grandparents are the late Harbie Frye Sr. and the late Hepsey Walker Frye.
Clan: Bird clan.
Tribal town: Eufaula Canadian.
Church/ Ceremonial ground:Thlewahle Indian Baptist Church and Hickory Ground
Activities: past school year she interned for the Creek Instructors at the University of Oklahoma, and she was a student assistant for the Native Languages office. After graduation Melanie is a sister and Red Council co-chair of the Native American Sorority Gamma Delta Pi, a member of the American Indian Student Association, the Cultural Affairs Committee, and she participated in Campus Ministries. Melanie was also the 2006-2007 Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
Future plans: on furthering her education by going to graduate school.

Congratulations Graduates

Forrest Gresham



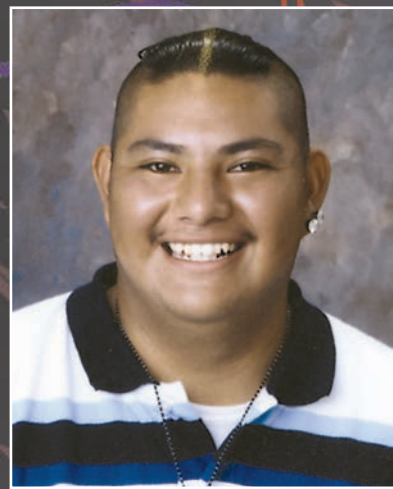
School: Morris High School
Parents: Cindy and Damon Gresham
Grandparents: Bertie C. Russell & Joe and Helen Gresham
Activities: Basketball and drawing
Future Plans: Attend OSU- Graphic Design Major.

Mary L. Harjo



School: Langston University, Oklahoma City Campus
Degree: Masters of Science in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Ceremonial Ground- New Tulsa
Parents: Amos and Lizzie Harjo
Grandparents: Cheparnochee Harjo, Lula Davis
Awards: RSA scholar, Independent Living
Activities: Langston Student Organization
Future Plans: Work towards getting my PHD either in Vocational Rehabilitation or Native American Studies

Daniel R. Heneha Jr.



School: Eufaula, Ok
Parents: Lorene Chavez & Dan Heneha (Irene Francis & Washie Lewis Jr.)
Grandparents: Mary & Ralph Heneha
Awards: All-Districts and All-Area in Football
Activities: Football
Future Plans: Go to Haskell Indian Nations University

Adam Hollier



School: Cornell University
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Parents: Carl and Jacqueline Hollier
Grand Parents: Marcelle Adams Hollier- Douglas Warren Hollier
Awards: Cornell Varsity football Paul Hunt Citizen Award, Distinguished Leadership (Akwekon), Excellence in Service (American Indian Program), Exceptional service Community Centers Funding Board, Meining Cornell National Scholar
Activities: Cayuga Heights Fire Department, Varsity Football and Track & Field, Black Students United- Campus Programming Coordinator, Big Brother Big Sister IthaKids- Program Coordinator,

tor, Cornell University Hearing Board, Minority Industrial and Labor Relations Student Organization, 2007 Class Council.

Future Plans: In the Fall I will be pursuing my masters in Urban Planning at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor.

Lauren B. Hollier



School: Renaissance High School, Detroit, Michigan
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Parents: Carl & Jacqueline Hollier
Grandparent: Marcelle Adams Hollier Douglas
Awards: Outstanding Governor's Award, Michigan Youth in Government, National Society of High School Scholars, Who's Who Among American High School Students & National Achievement Academy, 2006 Mosaic Citizen of Year Award, Miss Renaissance High, Francis Quint Volunteer Award, Honor Roll.
Activities: Youth Governor, Michigan Youth in Government; President of Class of 2007, Renaissance High; President of

Student Senate, Representative, Citywide Student Council; President, Latin Dance Club; Delegate, Conference on National Affairs; Co-Editor, Yearbook; Member, Quill & Scroll; Compact Motivational Speaker; Member, Optimist Club; Student Conductor & Singer, Mosaic Youth Theatre Member, Focus Hope Generations of Promise; Co-Captain, Girls Soccer Team, Volleyball, Student Activist, Jewelry Artist; Teen Cert; Children's Museum volunteer; Thanksgiving Day parade volunteer; Red Cross Volunteer.

Future Plans: Graduate from the University of Michigan. Biochemist, Teacher, & Artist

James R. Jimboy(Spooky)



School: Glenpool High School
Parents: David and Jensie Jimboy
Grandparents: Late Stanley Powell and Evelyn (Babe) Larney MCGirt
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Tukvtvtee
Sports Activities: Basketball, Football, Vocal Music and National Art Society
Awards: BGOC Award, Most Improved Student Award 2006/2007, Mr. Glenpool Vocal Music, Glenpool Football Homecoming King 2006/2007, Glenpool Chamber of Commerce Student of Month Award, Basketball Hustle Award, \$500 Scholarship Award from Glenpool Chamber of Commerce and National Art Society Award.

Future Plans: Attend Tulsa Community College for Liberal Arts and transfer to Rogers State in Claremore, Major in nursing.

Jessica R. Lowe



School: Dustin High School
Parents: Tony & Brenda Lowe,
Grandparents: maternal grandparents are Cecil & Ethelea Martin.
Paternal grandparents are the late John & Minnie Lowe.
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco Town
Clan: Deer clan.
Future Plans: go to college to become an RN with a Master's Degree.

Victoria Mills



School: Northeastern State University
Degree: Bachelor of Science: Biology or- ganismic emphasis
Clan: Turtle
Tribal Town: Tuskgee
Parents: Brenda & Tonny Mills
Grandparents: Late Jessie and Annie Watashe, and the late General and Bertie Mills
HONORS/ AWARDS
Miss Native American Student Association (NASA), Princess 2003-04
R.O.C.K Multicultural Student Leadership Conference Scholarship 2004, Pre - Admission Workshop Scholarship at New York Medical School 2004, 4th Annual National Tobacco Prevention

Conference Scholarship 2003, The National Dean's List 2003-04, Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation 2004-05, National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI)- Counselor Summer, 2005. Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa (iicot) Scholarship 2005, 14th Annual AAIP Cross Cultural Medicine Workshop-2006, Indian Health service Scholarship (IHS) 2006-2007

Activities: Native American Student Association (NASA), Indian University Scholars Society (IUSS), American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES): Northeastern Activities Board (NAB), Pre Professional Health Club Fishing and Wildlife Club, Alpha Pi Omega Sorority Inc.- Founder at NSU
NSU Symposium on the American Indian, 2003-2005, Indian Heritage Committee 2003-05, Diversity Week Committee 2004-05, Bone Morrow Donor Drive 2005-06

Future Plans: Was accept to OU in fall 07 for my Masters in Public health concentration in Epidemiology and after completing my master attend medical school and work for IHS.

Mychal S. Pigeon



School: Dustin High School, Tribal Town: Dustin , Parents Dennis Pigeon and Cindy Pigeon of Dustin
Grandparents: The late Robert and Judy Pigeon of Dustin, The Sherry Payne of Dustin and Jerry Larkins of Lawton,
Activites: Youth Helper of Assemy of God Church of Dustin, Basket three years and track one-year, FFA four years, President of Student Council one year.
Future Plans: Has enrolled in Seminole Junior College and plans to be a youth minister and learn Creek language good enough to continue preaching in the native language of the Creek Nation.

Congratulations Graduates

Osceola Y. Powell



School: Moss High School
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Kialegee Tribal Town
Parents: Chris and Yvette Powell
Grandparents: Calvin Battiest and the late Yvonne Buckley Martin; the late Bobby and Judy Johnson Powell
Awards: Prom King 2007
Acivities: Baseball, basketball, FFA, Yearbook, Creek Nation Challenge Bowl; Challenge Bowl Captain; Creek Nation Youth Speak Out
Future Plans: Attend Seminole State

William Sullivan



School: Broken Arrow High School
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Tulsa Canadian
Parents: Obie & Cathy Sullivan
Grandparents: Jesse and Leona Sullivan
Activities: Tulsa Technology- Pre Engineering
Future Plans: University of Missouri at Rolla Nuclear Engineering

Amanda K. Rath



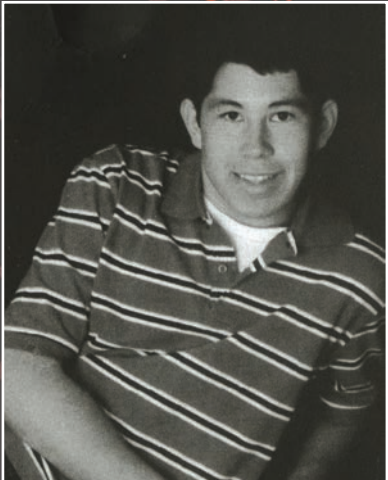
School: Tecumseh High School
Tribal Town: Broken Arrow
Parents: Bryan & Tracy Rath
Grandparents: JH & Janice Ramsey & Helen Flick
Future Plans: Attending OSU

Dakota R. Tiger



School: Coweta High School
Clan: Turtle
Tribal Town: Locvpokv
Parents: Charles Jr. and Sharon Henneha
Grandparents: Frances Miller and the late Joseph Tiger
Awards: Certificate of completion-Indian Capitol Vo-Tech in Muskogee, Ok. for Machine Tool Technology
Future Plans: Attend OSU-Okmulgee-Engineering Program

William D. Roberts



School: Morris High School
Parents: Danny & Janell Roberts
Grandparents: Late Stanley Roberts & Late Irene Morgan; The Late William McLaughlin & Eillene McLaughlin
Awards: JOM Scholarship at Morris High School, Redstick Society
Activities: Baseball and Basketball
Future Plans: Attending OSU-Okmulgee in the Drafting Field

John W. Timothy III



School: Amherst College
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Eufaula
Parents: John W. Timothy, Jr. MD & Deborah I. Allen MD
Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. John W Timothy Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Allen
Awards: Dean's List, Starting Bloc Fellow
Activities: Mr. Gads Improv Group, Freshman Orientation, Acting, Asian Studies
Future plans: Continuing Asian Studies, Tentative MBA Plans MIT

Blake A. Rolland



School: Edison High School Tulsa, Ok
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Pole-Cat-Kellyville, Okla.
Parents: Geoff & Tammi Rolland
Grandparents: Parental- Judy Haumpy & the late Al Rolland Jr.
Awards: Metro Honor Choir
Activities: Football, Choir, Track(Discus throwing)
Future Plans: Attend Univ. of Okla. For fall in medical field

Theodore A. Timothy



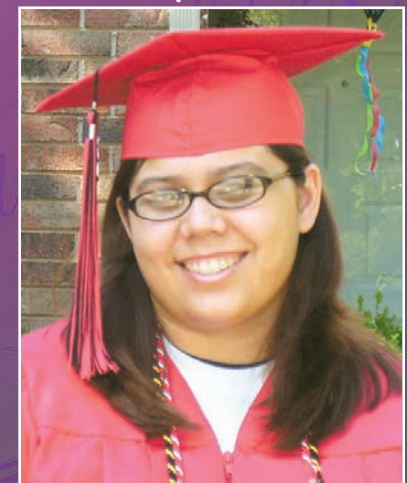
School: North Central HS
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Eufaula
Parents: John W. Timothy, Jr. MD & Deborah I. Allen MD
Grandparents: Mr.& Mrs. John W Timothy Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Allen
Awards: National Merit Finalist, National Honor Society, Wells Scholarship, AP Scholar with Distinction
Activities: Theater, Editor Publications, Brain Game, Lacrosse, Relay for Life
Future Plans: Harvard College tentative major in Mathematics and Physics

Clifton Sands



School: Mason High School
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Buckeye Creek Baptist
Awards: American Legion Award; Principals Honor Roll, Who's Who's Among American High School Students
Grandparents: Earl and Wisey Sands; Wilson and Wanda King
Future Plans: U.S. Army, College
Activities: Basketball, Baseball

Courtney Walters



School: East Central High School
Clan: Turkey
Tribal Town: Nuyaka
Parents: Karen Knight and Wade Walters
Grandparents: Bob and Anna King / Floyd and Leola Walters
Activities: Flag Captain of high school Flag Team
Future Plans: Tulsa Community College, Nursing Program

Congratulations Graduates

Thunder Whitecloud



School: Morris High School
Parents: Robyn and Dennis Culley; Fred and Brenda Bennett
Grandparents: Sharon Whitecloud; Gary Whitecloud
Great Grandparents: Willie and the late Vena Randall; the late Dave Powell; Rena Buck; the late Douglas Whitecloud
Awards: Recipient of First Annual Belvin Hill Memorial Scholarship; Superintendent's Honor Roll; Principal's Honor Roll; Geography, Algebra II and U.S. History Achievement Certificates; Student of the Month - October 2005; Green Country Technology Center, Web Development and Administration; Recipient of University of Oklahoma Sooner Distinction

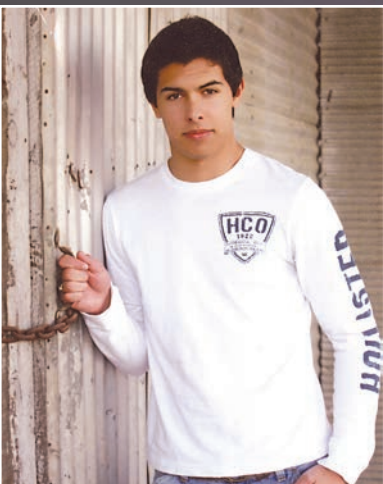
Scholarship 2007; Participant of the Johnson O'Malley Leadership Conference; Student Council Member, Community Development Conference
Future Plans: Attend University of Oklahoma

Rikki L. Wolfe



School: Schuler High School
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Tekopuchee
Parents: Rick and Minnie Wolfe
Grandparents: Late Thomas and Mattie Long; Late Roscoe Wolfe; Joyce Wolfe
Awards: Valedictorian; 2006 Oklahoma Indian Student of the Year; National Honor Society; Oklahoma Indian All-State; Basketball Scholarship at Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton
Activities: Schuler High School Gifted and Talented
Future Plans: Play College basketball and pursue a career in sports medicine

Adam "Chebon" Wiley



School: McAlester High School
Clan: Fuswv
Tribal Town: Tulsamucasse
Parents: Roger & Ryan Wiley
Grandparents: Harmon & Anna Lee Wiley; Richard & Phyllis Pearce
Awards: national Honor Society; Oklahoma Indian Honor Society; Oklahoma Academic Scholar; Oklahoma Honor Society; Eagle Scout; Masonic Lodge Student of Today; Rotary Club Student of the Month; Superintendent's Honor Roll; Academic Wrestling Champion
Activities: Wrestling; U.S. Naval Academy Summer Seminar; College Horizons; Astronomy Club; Book Club
Future Plans: Attend Stanford University

Matthew L. Yargee



School: Berryhill High School
Clan: Fuswkulke
Parents: Christopher L. Yargee and Shelly R. Yargee
Grandparents: David and Jencie Jimboy; Melissa Harjo
Activities: Masscots for Chief - Berryhill School - 05 Football
Future plans: Making Living in Lane Oklahoma

Clinton A. Wilson



School: The University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication.
Activities: He participated in the American Indian Academic Achievement Celebration and the University Commencement program on May 11, 2007. He is on the Dean's Honor Roll at OU and is an alumnus of the Oklahoma Chapter of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity.
Clan: Raccoon Clan and the Tribal Town: Tukvptce
Parents are Lawrence A. and Sandy Wilson of Morris, Oklahoma.
Grandparents are the late James and Carmen Griffin Fife and Alfred and Ruth King Wilson.
Future Plans: He is currently employed at

the Muscogee Creek Nation and has plans to attend law school in the future. Clint will marry Megan Moore of Okmulgee this summer.

ELECTION BOARD

The following registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are urged to contact the Election Board of your address change. According to return mail you are no longer at the residence indicated on your voter registration form. This could effect your voting in the 2007 Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council election.

Relatives of persons listed below; if you know of any deceased persons listed please contact our office at (918) 756-8700 ext. 7685, 7684 or 7631 so that he/she may be removed from the computer.

Abbott, Andy Russell
Acheson, Marilyn
Acree (Ollie), Dora
Adams III, Willie S.
Adams, Brian H.
Adams, Lauren M.
Adams, Mark Stefan
Adams, Nancy Muriel
Adams, Neal V.
Adams(Rinehart), Paula
Ade, David Stacey
Adkins, Johnnie Mae
Adkins, Stella P.
Adolph, Gregory L.
Adolph, Jeffery E.
Adsit, Ronald
Agent(Post), Samantha
Agnes, Ruth Randall
Alcorn, LaTonya Quinn
Alexander, Anita K.
Alexander, Robert
Alexander, Willie T.
Allen, Adrienne
Allen, Byron Dean
Allen, Raymond S.
Allsbrooks, Jamie E.
Alsup (Ralston), Velma
Alsup, Clyde F.
Anderson, Bennie Jerry
Anderson, Derrick E.
Anderson, Patricia Ann
Anderson, Robert Otis
Anderson, Rollie Lynn
Anderson, Victor R.
Anderson, Doni Kay
Archer, Jerry D.
Archer, Leroy W.
Archer, Mark Ashley
Archer, Melissa J.
Archer, Randall M.
Armour, Sonya Lashon
Arnett, Tenia
Arnn, Kari Leanne
Arpoika, Bobby I.
Arpoika, Brad Lee
Arpoika, Lenda Fay
Arzola, Sherri
Asbury, Charles E.
Asbury, Lillian J.
Ashmore, Yvette M.
Asimenu, Janet K.
Aters, Anita Sue
Atkins, Kathy
Atkins, Stacie Diane
Atkins, William N. Jr.
Aubrey, Herbert F.
Audd, Richard M.
Audrain, Gertude
Ault, Cheri
Aultman, Julie Michelle
Ausmus (Selsor), Irene
Austin (Yardy), Arma
Austin, Danielle K.
Austin, Susan L.
Avaldes, Helen B.
Avery, Sharon Kay
Aynes, Sandra Fay
Bable, Mattie L.
Badgett, Alice
Bailey(Harrell), Betty
Bailey, Janet Elaine
Bailey, Martha
Bailey, Robin K.
Baker, Chris LaDawn
Baker, Diana Fern
Baker, Elizabeth Elaine
Baker, James Theodore
Baker, John Russell
Baker, Robert Jr.
Baker, Ronald B.
Baker, William T.
Baldridge, James M.
Baldridge, Paul A.
Baldridge, Steven J.
Bales (Brown), Rhonda
Bales, Jerry
Baney, Edith Marie
Banks (Bird), Carol
Banks, Bobbie Starr
Banks, Lori L.
Banks, Melissa Anne
Banowitz, Margaret
Barlow, Charles A. Jr.
Barnes, Barney Ray
Barnes, Donna K.
Barnes, Lesa M.
Barnes, Lesa Marie
Barnes, Reashinda Jo
Barnett, Bradley S.
Barnett, Brandon E.
Barnett, Calvin Leon
Barnett, Clifford Lee
Barnett, Clifton Bill
Barnett, David Dean
Barnett, David R.
Barnett, Dickey Phillip
Barnett, Dode Ann
Barnett, Eleanor R.
Barnett, Elliot J.
Barnett, Gail J.
Barnett, George C.
Barnett, Jackson Jr.
Barnett, Jacob
Barnett, Jacob Jr.
Barnett, Joe
Barnett, Joshua Adam
Barnett, Justin Dale
Barnett, Linda Lenn
Barnett, Michell Harjo
Barnett, Ronald R.
Barnett, Stephanie Beth
Barnett, Steven Douglas
Barnett, Susanna E.
Barnett, Timothy Ryan
Barnoski, Chebon Lee
Barratt (Gotts), Virginia
Barrett (Bales), Carlene
Barrett, Rhett L.
Barron, Delorse Ann
Bartlow, Lorie L.
Bartmess, Donnie M.
Barton (Hart), Rosella
Barton (Kelley), Brenda
Barton, Andrew R.
Baryson, Cary C.
Barzellone, Justin S.
Basner, Jamie Michele
Bass(Locust), Rosanna

Burgess, Robert Craig
Burkhart (Robison), Lea
Burks, Phyllis Ann
Burley (Byard), Lisa
Burns, Amelia J.
Burns, George Alvin Jr
Burns, Mekia Renee
Burris (Harris), Martha
Burris, Curtis W.
Burson, Connie
Burton, Jimmy L.
Bush (Grenolds), Elvia
Bush, Marilyn G.
Bushouse, Pamela J.
Bushyhead, Kathleen
Butler, Cory Wynn
Butler, Matthew Ray
Byers (Smith) Vicki J
Byrd (Watson), Wanda
Byrd, Belinda L.
Byrd, Gnetta F.
Byrum, Maria Elaine
Cable (Vail), Jo Ann
Cadion, Jacqueline E.
Caesar, Alphonso
Cahwee, Larry Joe
Cain (Plum), Tracia A.
Caldwell, Jerro G.
Calvert, Michael T.
Camp, Bonita J.
Campbell, Clay I.
Campbell, Ian M.
Campbell, Shelley D.
Canard, Curtis L.
Canard, Gwyn Mary
Canard, Joe Kinsley
Canard, Mary Gwyn
Canard, Robert Lee
Canard, Roger G.
Cantrell Jr., Billy Gene
Cantrell Sr., Billy Gene
Cantrell, Josephine Vera
Cantrell, Ladonna L.
Carey, John C.
Carey, Sandra Lee
Cargil, Pamela Jayne
Carman, Lonnie C. Sr.
Carmona, Lorraine M.
Carnell, Jimmy Dell
Carnell, Mary Katherine
Carpenter, Jeanie
Carpenter, Michael
Carpenter, Robert D.
Carr, George W.
Carrett (Lewis), Eula
Carroll, Stacie P.
Carson, Dana W.
Carter (Harris), Delores
Carter, Delores
Carter, Mable
Carter, Michelle R.
Carter, Tina Deann
Case, Anthony W.
Case, Maurice W.
Casey, Pat Rockne
Casey, Patricia A.
Cassaday (Hill), Rhonda
Castle, Betty J.
Castro, Larry D.
Cater, Richard L.
Cater, William B.
Catland, Barbara J.
Caudill, Peter Ian
Caywood, Melissa A.
Chalakee, Billy W. Jr.
Chalakee, Kenneth W.
Chalakee, Theron Layne
Chalakee, Tommy L.
Chamberlin, Marion P.
Chandler, Jimmy Lynn
Chandler, Linda P.
Chaney, Christopher R.
Chaney, Jackson S.
Chase, Walton C.
Chastain, Jason A.
Chicotah, Benjamin G.
Chicotah, Etta M.
Chicotah, Orvilon
Chicotah, Roman Jr.
Checote, Sky C.
Cheek, Dawn
Cheek, Tim Wayne
Cheote, Johnnie L.
Chesser, Natalie Dawn
Childers, Daniel C.
Childers, Mark S.
Childress (Tiger), Lucy
Childress, Michael R.
Chisholm, Anderson F.
Chisholm, Frank Jr.
Chisholm, Linda Sue
Chissoe, Michele M.
Chissoe, Sam Jr.
Chotkey, Billy
Christian, Etta Mae
Christiansen, Patrick
Christiansen, Michael R.
Christy, Ethal
Chupco, Johnny Ray
Chupco, Sammy D.
Cindle, Randy Allen
Clark (Fisher), Tamra
Clark (Hardin), Roxanne
Clark, Bessie A.
Clark, Billy June
Clark, Latoya Renee
Clark, Michael Allen
Clark, Paula Sue
Clark, Penny J.
Clary (Berryhill), Ruth
Clayton, Kevin E.
Clayton, Ronald J.
Cleary (Logan), Regina
Clements (Brown), Lois
Clemmer, Elizabeth J.
Clester, Linda L.
Clifton, Debra K.
Clifton, Dianna L.
Cline, Joel Cotton
Cline, Shirley Ann
Clinton, William Amos
Cloud (Holuby), Leah
Cloud (Roberts), Lucy
Cloud, Latisha Renee
Cloud, Mark D.
Cloud, Rodney E.
Clubb (Covey), Alice
Coachman, Agnes
Coachman, Amy Larissa
Coachman, Brenda S.
Coachman, Charles M.
Coachman, David James
Coachman, Denise C.
Coachman, James P.
Coachman, Willa M.
Cobb, Youvon Linell
Coburn, Charles D. (Jr.)
Coburn, Kimberly Kay
Cocharan, Brenda K.
Cody (Rose), Jenny
Coffin (Brooks), Lolita

Coffman, Karen F.
Coker, Katrina M.
Coker, Thomas E. (Jr.)
Colbert, Charles R.
Colbert, Lucille
Colbert, Lucille
Cole(Keele), Margaret
Cole, Aaron L.
Cole, Bobbie L.
Cole, Heather Lynn
Cole, Jack L.
Cole, James M. Jr.
Cole, Jamie Lee
Cole, Susan
Cole, Theresa L.
Coleman, Leona T.
Coleman, Steve M.
Combs, Beulah
Combs, Doreen Levern
Combs, Harold B.
Combs, Marcus L.
Combs, Melvin L.
Combs, Robert K.
Compton, Crystal Gail
Conard, Millicent W.
Condreay, Maude E.
Condry, Elizabeth Irene
Conley, Oscar L.
Conn, Minnie R.
Cook, Camela Christine
Cook, Jacqueline
Cook, Joyce M.
Cook, Scot D.
Coon, Arthur Jr.
Coon, Lula Mae
Coonhead, Cheryl Lynn
Cooper, Billy
Cooper, Brandon David
Cooper, Christopher J.
Cooper, Cranford W.
Cooper, David L.
Cooper, Herbert Lynn
Cooper, James Emmett
Cooper, Johnny Gordon
Cooper, Lucinda Kay
Cooper, Lyndel L.
Cooper, Mary Nancy
Cooper, Matthew Daniel
Cooper, Sam
Cooper, Sandra Lou
Coots, Mark A.
Copeland, Lisa L.
Copenhaver, Thomas J.
Copland, Michael R.
Cornfeld, Thelma
Cosar, Vactor Elliott
Cottrell, Shelly
Cottrell, Cindy L.
Couch, Jack C.
Coulter, Kathy D.
Coursey, Richard J.
Courtemanche, Deborah
Cowan, Alice M.
Cowan, Carolyn Ann
Cowan, Scipio
Cowles, Agnes L.
Cowles, Jimmy W.
Cox, Laura S.
Cox, Winnie J.
Coyle, Bobby L.
Coyle, Elsie
Coyle, Jamie J.
Coyle, Randy A.
Craigh Jr., Lowell T.
Craig, Stanley Edwin
Craig, Suzanne Marciel
Crain, Ambia L.
Crawels, Mary Lou
Crawford, Debra A.
Crawford, Geraldine
Crawford, Linda C.
Crawford, Ola L.
Crawford, Scotty S.
Crawford, Sylvia D.
Creek, Irene
Crenshaw, Jackie Duane
Cricklin, David R.
Critzler, Mikela K.
Cron, Teresa M.
Croney, Marian Lee
Crook, Danetta A.
Crook, Leon Dee
Crosby, Shonna E.
Crosse(Harris), Rebecca
Crouse, Jacqueline M.
Crowell, Thomas James
Crowles (Bosen), Nora
Crowles, David Paul
Crowles, Sheresia Lynn
Cruce, Alan Lee
Cruce, Anna Louise
Crumley, Wanda Ruth
Cruz, Carrie E.
Cruz, Cynthia Ann
Culberson, Bethel Jean
Culley, Angela C.
Culley, Anna L.
Culley, Jeffery Wallace
Cumpco, Linda
Cunningham, Celease
Cunningham, Marcella
Curry, Jerome H.
Curry, Ostennia M.
Curry, Partricia Lynn
Cutburth, Emma L.
Daniels, Lance S.
Daniels, Marsha Mae
Dank, Jan M.
Daugherty, Jennifer L.
Davidson, Oneawa Kay
Davis, Anthony P.
Davis, Billy
Davis, Christopher Lee
Davis, David Spencer
Davis, Don J.
Davis, Dortha Mae
Davis, Estelen
Davis, Glenn M.
Davis, Gwendolyn
Davis, Hugh N.
Davis, Jack Floyd
Davis, Linda F.
Davis, Mack Jr.
Davis, Martha K.
Davis, Mary M.
Davis, Meggie Ann
Davis, Michele J.
Davis, Nicole Rocelle
Davis, Oneil Jr.
Davis, Ramona Jean
Davis, Roy Lee
Davis, Steven Patrick
Davis, Tommy Gene
Davison, Larry
Davison, Ronald G.
Dawson, Mancia
Day, James H.
Day, Ora M.
Deacon, Denette A.
Dean, Rebecca Irene
Dean, Richard V.
Dearman, Johnnie R.
Dearman, Mary M.

Deaver, Sarah J.
Deer (Manley) Lillian
Deer, Tom Dean
Deere, Christopher C.
Deere, Dana M.
Deere, Dandra Deneen
Deere, Kerry A.
Deere, Mord H.
Deere, Samuel R.
Deeringwater, Angela B.
Deerinwater, George E.
Deerinwater, Lisa Ann
Deihl, Daniel S.
Demry, Lucy D.
Denney, Melissa A.
Dennis, Beverly S.
Deo, Clarence Edward
Deo, Steven T.
Deroin, Debra C.
Determan, Freda
Dewdney, Margaret L.
Dial, Andrea
Dick, Julia Ann
Dickerson, Crawford K.
Dickerson, Roosevelt S.
Dickey (Fleet), Alice
Dickson (Jones), Velva
Digranes (Autry), Jo
Dixon, Dru S.
Dobbins, Michael R.
Dobbs, Hershel
Dobson, Leah A.
Dobson, Mikel L.
Dodge, Charlotte D.
Doering, Linda A.
Dominic, John Freeland
Dorsey, Daniel T.
Dorsey, Gary N.
Doss (Sary), Carol
Doss, Douglas S.
Doss, Reginald K.
Doss, Samson Wayne
Doss, Trae J.
Doty, Marjorie Earl
Douglas Jr., Raymond R.
Douglas, David J.
Douglas, Derek Dean
Douglas, Donna D.
Douglas, Donna Delores
Dover, Linda
Dowling, Zenas
Downing, Jacqueline
Doyle, Annalis
Doyle, Jeffrey
Doyle, Kevin Brett
Doyle, Shelly
Dozier, Junita
Drake, Ivan Jr.
Drew, Earl E.
Driscol, Rosie L.
Drotos, Jennifer A.
Drywater, Jason L.
Dubose (Ceasar), Icy
Dunca, Donald G.
Duncan, Nancy J.
Duncan, Ronald D.
Dunford, Phillip D. (Jr.)
Dunham, Bessie L.
Dunham, Fred R.
Dunker, Sherry L.
Dunn, Donna J.
Dunn, Geraldine Marie
Dunn, Haden Michael
Dunn, Mark E.
Dunn, Martha Louise
Dunn, Marvin D.
Dunn, Vanis Eugene
Dunning, Betty Lou
Dunson Jr., Michael L.
Dunson, Anthony Lynn
Dunzy, Donnie
Durante (Storts), Sherita
Durfee, Kelly L.
Durniak, Sharon M.
Durossett, Eldee
Durossette, Raymond C.
Durossette, Robert D.
Duttry, Rodney L.
Duttry, Evelyn Jane
Duvall, Darin L.
Durok, Leath G.
Dyer, Jimmy Ray
Eads, Aaron P.
Eads, Ira V.
Eakes, Vincent R.
Earnest, Tammy D.
Easley, Evelyn A.
Eason, Cynthia a.
Easteop, Tommy L.
Ebahottubi, Michelle D.
Edminsten, Monte
Edwards, Donna Sue
Edwards, Elizabeth
Edwards, Joe Robert
Edwards, Kenneth L.
Edwards, Marion L.
Edwards, Richard (Jr.)
Eldridge, Sherry E.
Ellig, Joyce Ellen
Elliot (Yahola), Salye
Elliot, Joseph B.
Elliot, Sallye Elizabeth
Ellis, Vonda Kay
Ellsworth, Kristin G.
Elston, Faith E.
Emerson, Shirley F.
Emery (Posey), Byron
Emrich, Deborah L.
Engelbert, Linda A.
England, James A.
England, Lillie M.
England, Samuel C.
England, Terry D.
Enlow (Miller), Linda K.
Ennis, ewelane E.
Ennis, Patricia E.
Enriquez, Betty G.
Epperley, Gary C.
Epperley, Linda A.
Epperson, Abbie Louise
Epperson, Gary N.
Erler(Hedding), Mary
Escoe, Emery
Escoe, Herschel H.
Escoe, Leonard H.
Escue, Leonard H.
Escue-Scrapper, Karen L.
Eshleman, Tracy L.
Estle(Chase), Kathryn
Eubanks, Sammy Lee
Evans, Frankie
Evans, Jackie Lee
Evans, Kelly Renee
Evans, Tommy Joe
Ewton, Andrew M.
Factor (Franks), Peggy
Factor, Michael W.
Factor, Nancy Jean
Factor, Patrick R.
Factor, Stephen W.
Falconer, Barbara A.
Farris(Madrid), Jamie
Farnsworth, Kathy S.

Feagan(Jensen), Anna
Featherston, Lee
Felix(Pittman), Helen
Felix, Richard A.
Felix, Richard D.
Felix, Ronald Jay
Fenton, Diana Lynn
Ferguson, Cherokee C.
Ferguson, Carrie L.
Fiarris, Jeanne A.
Ficher, John Nathan
Fields, Albert John
Fields, Angela Renea
Fields, Billy Daniel
Fields, Brandi Lecher
Fields, Frankie Star
Fields, James A.
Fields, Samuel A.
Fields, Tyra Dawn
Fife, Victor Robert
File(Hardin), Wanda
Finch, Jerry A.
Fish, Cecil C.
Fish, Cindy L.
Fish, Eddie R. Sr.
Fish, Leonard Wayne
Fish, Louis M. Jr.
Fish, Mitchell F. Jr.
Fisher, Christopher N.
Fisher, Ina
Fisher, Joe
Fisher, Johnny Bill
Fisher, Kenneth L.
Fisher, Kenneth S.
Fisher, Lawrence Jr.
Fisher, Lige S.
Fisher, Wynona J.
Fitch (Tiger), Barbara
Fixico (Harjo), Kepsey
Fixico(Spencer), Lenah
Fixico, Allen Dean
Fixico, Benny Dale
Fixico, Charles Jr.
Fixico, Dheri Dawn
Fixico, Donna
Fixico, Edna Mae
Fixico, Elmer
Fixico, Jacob Michael
Fixico, Jimmy Dale
Fixico, Kenneth Lee
Fixico, Lloyd Wayne
Fixico, Lou Jean
Fixico, Martha Ann
Fixico, Minnie E.
Fixico, Myron Clair
Fixico, Nellie Jean
Fixico, Quinton L.
Fixico, Richard d.
Fixico, Rosalie
Fixico, Sheri Dawn
Fixico, Steven
Fixico, Taylor
Fixico, Thomas Dale
Fixico, Lou Jean
Fleetwood, Mickey D.
Flesher, Imogene L.
Floyd, Jerry d.
Floyd, Phillip d.
Floyd, Ruth Marie
Foely, Sonnie
Foley, Brian Lee
Foley, Charles Ray
Foley, Mark A.
Foley, Maureen
Foley, Sandra Jane
Folsom, Theresa A.
Fontaine, Lola
Ford, Nina M.
Foreman, Konya S.
Forester, Robert Scott
Foster, Brian S.
Foster, Charles A.
Foster, Charles E. Jr.
Foster, David R.
Foster, Dawn R.
Foster, Deanne M.
Foster, Georgia J.
Foster, Kendra Lynn
Foster, Tol Anderson
Fowler, Sandra Marie
Foy, Travis E.
Fraley, Marcus G.
Franchek, Cynthia A.
Francis, Elizabeth A.
Francis, Mark
Francis, Victor T.
Francis, Wilma Fay
Frank(Bigpond),Trudy
Franklin, Doby S.
Fraser, Diane M.
Frazier, Clayton M.
Frazier, Betty R.
Frazier, Constance G.
Frazier, Debra K.
Frazier, Beecher Lewis
Fream, Edward L.
Fream, Kim K.
Fream, Wendy L.
Freeland, Cecelia Kay
Freeman, Charles Jr.
Freeman, Jack H.
Freeman, Jack II
Freeman, Leola
Freeman, Monica Gail
Freeman, Ronald G.
Freeman, Ruben Jr.
Freeman, Velma Ruth
Freeman, Vernon B.
Freeman, William E.
French, Alex G.
French, Brandon Kane
French, Gara L.
French, Loy R.
Fruitt, Bernadette S.
Frye II, Ed Porter
Frye(Bunny), Marion
Frye, Darianne
Frye, Janice
Frye, Johnny
Frye, Majel Kathryn
Fulwider, David V.
Funchess, Edward
Furr, Claudette
Gable, James C. Jr.
Gable, Susie A.
Gaither, William J.
Gallagher, Darla J.
Gallagher, David G.
Gamble, Robert L.
Garcia, Deborah V.
Garris (Davis), Pamela
Garrison, Ruth A.
Gaskins, Elizabeth W.
Gaston, Oliver
Gatzman, Tanya Lea
Gee, Carmen K.
Geivens, Devan R.
Gentry, Tennie B.
George, Addie F.
George, Gene Edward
George, Ruben D.

George, Stephen R.
George, Valeta Bertha
Gerais, Marsha L.
Geren, Katherine C.
Gibson, Albert A.
Gibson, Karen Janiece
Gibson, PamelaK.
Gibson, Sherrie L.
Gideon, Michael G.
Gideon, Peggy L.
Gilbert, Elvin H.
Gill, Angela Lee
Gilliam, Constance K.
Gillian, Maude M.
Gilliland, Melissa Ann
Gillispie, Barbara J.
Gilmore, Rhayma K.
Gist, Gloria Gwendon
Givens, Charles Jr.
Givens, Donald R.
Givens, Jesse
Givens, Jesse
Givens, Michael Joe
Givens, Sonny James
Givens, Thomas M.
Givens, Thomas Monroe
Gladden, Jason M.
Glasco, Sandra
Goddard, Mary E.
Golden, Mark Tahmer
Goode, Bethel R.
Goodman, Brenda J.
Goodvoice, Jeremy Lee
Goodvoice, Meredith
Goodwin, Julie Darlene
Gore, Melissa
Gossett, Carolyn J.
Goudeau, Juriden
Gouge, David A. Jr.
Gouge, Edna Mae
Gouge, Melinda J.
Gouge, Peggy A.
Gowdy, Cathey Ann
Graham, Kimberly S.
Grant, Dillardard Robert
Grant, Margaret J.
Grant, Rena Mae
Grant, Robert Grant
Gray, Carrie C.
Gray, Esther Rae
Gray, Jacqueline R.
Gray, Regina Kay
Gray, Walter E.
Gray, Walter L.
Grayson, Anthony
Grayson, Beatrice
Grayson, Curtis Jr.
Grayson, Doris
Grayson, Max David
Grayson, Nancy L.
Green (Bales), Ruth H.
Green, Dan
Green, David
Green, Kenneth Dale
Green, Kevin A.
Green, Lisa S.
Greenrock, Sandra Faye
Greenwood, Heather
Greenwood, Jerry
Greenwood, John M.
Greenwood, Nona L.
Greenwood, Robert L.
Gregory, Brooke L.
Gregory, Fletcher
Gregory, Hunter T.
Grice(Edward), Bettie
Griffin, Hully Daniel
Griffin, Kristina P.
Griffin, Marla J.
Griffin, Sandra Lynn
Griffith, Robert J.
Griffith, Sharon Kay
Griffith, Tony D.
Grimes(Herrod), Katie
Grissom, Delilah Denise
Grissom, John E.
Grubbs, Darrell E.
Grubbs, Michael E.
Grunmitt, Beverly
Grundty, Pamela R.
Guald, Virginia A.
Guild, Elizabeth A.
Guinn III, Jesse Albert
Guinn, Cheri Lynn
Guthrie, Carrie Anne
Gutierrez, Marcella
Guynes, Camellia Renee
Haddox, Deborah D.
Haddox, Joe Bill
Haddox, Kevin J.
Haddox, Marilyn
Haggard, Arby N.
Haggard, Misty Ann
Hagie, Shelia Kay
Hailey, Kathy J.
Haikay, Nathan
Hajro, Marcus Lewis
Hajro, Mary A.
Hale, Barbara
Hale, Cecil Klye
Hale, David Sr.
Hale, Debie S.
Hale, Merc L.
Hale, Robert L.
Hale, William L.
Hale,Tommie N.
Haley, George E.
Hall, Arvie E.
Hall, Carol A.
Hall, Gordon G.
Hall, Mary R.
Hall, Melba J.
Hall, Shirley
Hallford, Lawrence
Hallford, Louie L.
Hallum, Terry D.
Hamblet, Frank J.
Hamblet, Ruby E.
Hamby, Norman K.
Hamilton, Delores J.
Hammer, Leigh A.
Hamon, Craig
Haney, Roberta Jo
Hanley, Regina L.
Hannan, Grant
Hanson, Flossie A.
Hardin, David Ray
Hardin, David Ray
Hardin, Gary Wayne
Hardin, Ruby L.
Harding, Eddie R.
Hardison, Marilyn M.
Harjo Jr. Newman
Harjo(Beaver), Betty
Harjo(George), Valerie
Harjo, Albert L.
Harjo, Barney D.
Harjo, Bennie D.
Harjo, Betsy Lorene
Harjo, Charles Wayne
Harjo, Claudette
Harjo, Danny Allen

Hill, Benjamin Jr.
Hill, Billy Dean
Hill, Clark E.
Hill, Dora May
Hill, Felix
Hill, Frances Marie
Hill, Jacqueline T.
Hill, Joann
Hill, Katherine L.
Hill, Levi
Hill, Mandy
Hill, Millie Drene
Hill, Nancy
Hill, Sabrina Diane
Hill, Sonja Ann
Hill, Stewart
Hill, Steffen Flagstaff
Hill, Taara D.
Hill, Vanessa J.
Hill, Wayland J.
Hillburn, Jeffrey S.
Hillmon, Mildred S.
Hilliory, Dorothy
Hinkle, Lillie Ann
Hite, Pauline
Hixson, Karen
Hoag, Mary L.
Hobbs, Leann
Hobbs, Stephanie
Hobia, Kelly S.
Hodgden, Jennifer J.
Hodge, Billy G.
Hodge, Daniel Ray
Hodge, Floyd W.
Hodge, Jerry W.
Hodge, Joshua L.
Hodge, Kelly D.
Hodge, Larry D.
Hodges, Frances J.
Hoehn, Carla
Hoffman, Loretta F.
Hofstrom, Cindy Sue
Hohlahta, Jamie E.
Hohlahta, Louis
Hold, Beverly Ann
Holdridge, Brandon S.
Holladay, Robert D.
Holland, Marjorie R.
Holland, Terri Sue
Holler, Regina
Hollstelle, James D.
Holleyman, Henry H.
Holleyman, Henry M.
Hollier, Nicole G.
Holloway III, Samuel J.
Holloway Jr, Samuel J.
Holmes, Raymond
Holmes, Rebecca
Holmes, Ricky
Holmes, Shirley A.
Holt, Hazel M.
Hood, Barry Keith
Hooper, Michael S.
Hornor, James Stephen
Horse, Georgia Jo
Horton, Heather Denise
Howard, Lena Mae
Howell, Billy Don
Howell, Earl Dean
Hummingbird, Irene
Hummingbird, Irene
Inks (Kelley), Mary Ann
Irish, (Nelson), Linda
Irons, Naomi
Irvin, Bobbie L.
Irsham, Jermoe
Ishmael, Carl C.
Ishmael, John Lee
Ishmael, John Matthew
Ishmael, Joshua Lee
Ishmael, Maxine
Ishmael, Regenia Kaye
Ishmael, Sara R.
Ishmael-Amos, Tina
Issac, Michael Allen
Jack, Everett L. Jr.
Jack, Jimmie
Jack, Juanita Lyn
Jack, Mitch Allen
Jack, Everett L.
Jackson, Shelly L.
Jackson, Clifford O Jr.
Jackson, Antonio
Jackson, Betty Sue
Jackson, Christina R
Jackson, Dave
Jackson, Della Marie
Jackson, Geneva
Jackson, Jackie Lynn
Jackson, Janet Marie
Jackson, Jerry L.
Jackson, Jimmie W.
Jackson, Kelley R.
Jackson, Kenneth D.
Jackson, Rhonda C.
Jackson, Robert W.
Jackson, Timmie O.
Jackson, Timothy A.
Jackson, Kenneth D. III
Jacobs, Jacqueline
Jacobs, John A.
Jacobs, Linda
Jacobs, Warren A.
Jacobs, William R.
Jacobs, Willie
Jaggars, Dawn
James, Cynthia
James, Jeffrey W.
James, John David
James, Michael L.
James, Orville E.Jr.
James, robert E.
James, William D.
Janzen, Teresa D.
Jenkins, William L.
Jennings, Barbara Ann
Jesse, Jimmie Jo
Jesse, Lisa S.
Jesse, William D.
Jihad, Roshell
Jimboy, Cornelius W.
Jimboy, Edith
Jimboy, Edna Mae
Jimboy, Jay M.
Jimboy, Marcy
Jimboy, Ray
Jimboy, Richard Allen
Jimboy, Robin Bobby
Jimboy, Tonya R.
John Sr., Henry Joe
Johnson (Smith), Betty
Johnson, Albert Jr.
Johnson, Christina G.
Johnson, David A.
Johnson, David L.
Johnson, Erwin J.
Johnson, Floyd
Johnson, Gary
Johnson, Jimmy Miller

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Boxing Champion
Randy Cantrell



FEATURES
SPORTS B8



Creek Festival
Insert

THE SCENE
ENTERTAINMENT C1

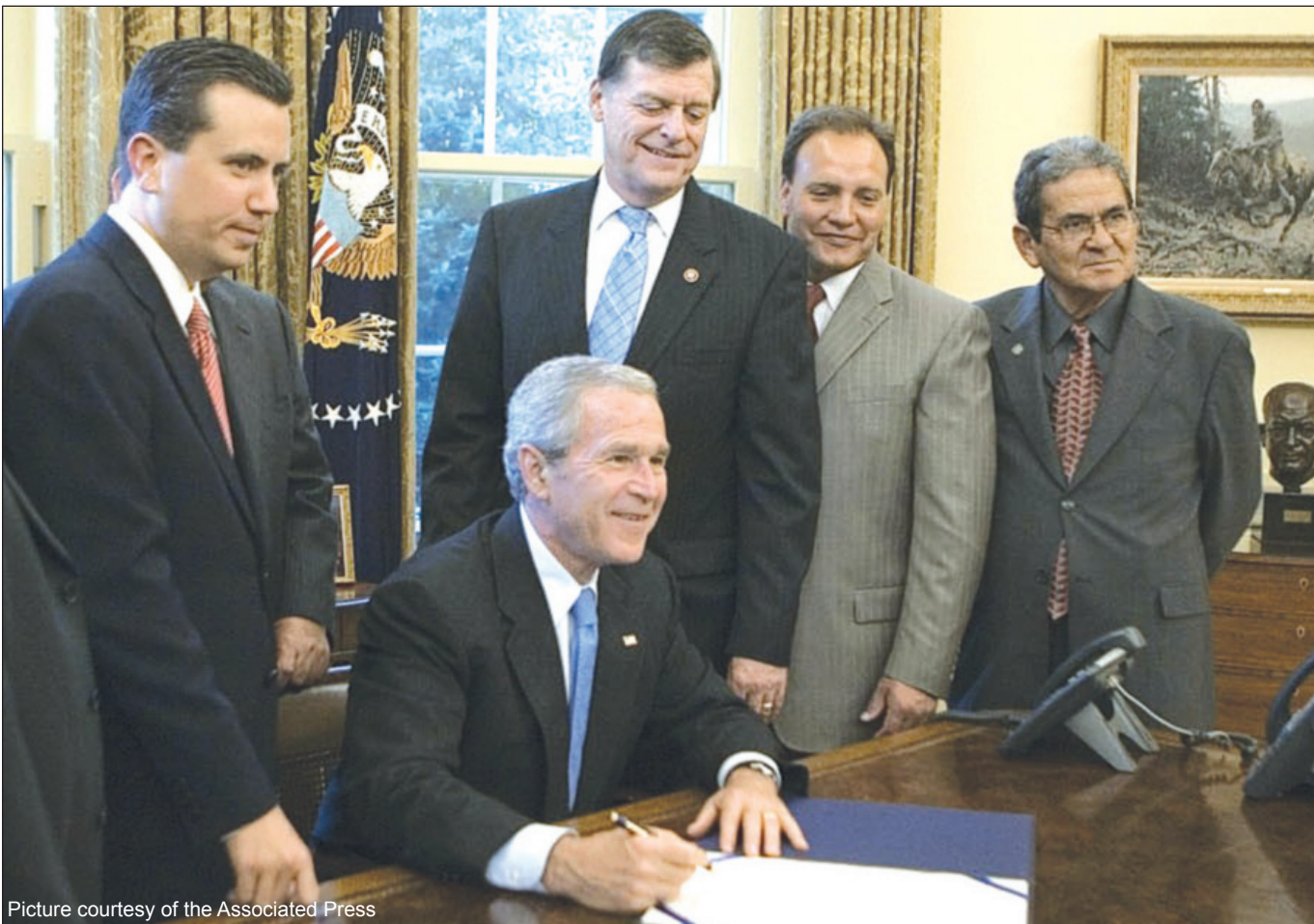


MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

July, 2007
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MONTHLY

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Chief Ellis visits White House regarding Native American Home Loan Program



Picture courtesy of the Associated Press
Pictured above from left to right are U.S. Rep. Dan Boren, D-Okla., U.S. Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., Choctaw Nation Assistant Chief Gary Batton and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis. Seated is U.S. President Bush.

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

WASHINGTON — In 1992 Congress created a federal program specifically designed to address the lack of mortgage capital in Indian country. Under the provisions of Section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 and amended under the provisions of the Native Americans Housing Assistance and Self-determination Act of 1996, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was authorized to guarantee loans made by private lenders to Native Americans, IHAs/TDHEs and Tribes.

In June of 2007 Chief A.D. Ellis took a trip to the White House in Washington D.C. regarding Congressman Boren's bill to the reauthorize the Native American home loan program. Boren's bill addressed the lack of mortgage lending in Indian

Country. The new act, which is named, the Native American Home Ownership Opportunity Act of 2007, reauthorized the Section 184 loan guarantee program administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the fiscal year of 2012. This act provides loan guarantees to private-sector lenders who make mortgage loans to eligible borrowers for home located in Indian Country.

When speaking about the bill, Boren stated, "This program increases home ownership in Indian Country and improves the quality of life in Indian communities."

It is reported that nationwide, 196 tribes participate in this program, including 24 in Oklahoma. Since its inception, the program has guaranteed \$517 million in loans, including \$219 million in Oklahoma. The state

consistently represents 34 percent of the total loans guaranteed through the program.

The bill that Congressman Boren presented was signed by President Bush on Monday June 18, 2007. While in Washington D.C. the Oklahoma leaders were taken into the Oval Office, where President actually signed the bill. Joining President Bush and Congressman Boren were leaders from many of the Native American tribes in Oklahoma. This group included Chief Chad Smith of the Cherokee Nation, Chief A.D. Ellis of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Chief Enoch Kelly Haney of the Seminole Nation, Gov. Bill Anoatubby of the Chickasaw Nation and Assistant Chief Gary Batton of the Choctaw Nation.

In the past some barriers presented themselves when it came time for Native American people to purchase homes. Much of the

land in Indian country is held in trust by the U.S. government for the benefit of a particular tribe or individual Native Americans. The land held in trust could not be mortgaged, and land held in trust for an individual must receive federal approval before lien is placed on the property. As a result, tribes and individual Native American families have historically had limited access to private mortgage capital.

In response to the bill, Chief Ellis stated, "Financially, a lot of our people need help. This bill is going to help all Indian Nations as far as acquiring housing. This bill will help with down payments and closing costs that many people in the Creek Nation don't have." Chief Ellis also talked about how this bill will help bring newer and better houses to the people who are currently living in substandard housing.

Court hears Bristow's injunction arguments

by Jason Salsman
MNN Staff Writer

For two days, arguments were heard by Muscogee (Creek) District Judge Patrick Moore in the case of Bristow Indian Community's injunction request against Chief A.D. Ellis, G.O.A.B. Chairman Owen Sapulpa, OPG Gaming Commissioner Jason Nichols and MCN Deputy Director Della Cherry. The community is seeking an injunction from the court to stop what they believe to be a "takeover" of their casino operation in the community of Bristow. The principal chief counters with his claim that Bristow's negligent operation of their casino has endangered the nation's licence with the National Indian Gaming Commission, a claim that is also backed by the additional defendants.

In March, the Office of the Principal Chief received an audit report from the Office of Public Gaming which contained, according to OPG Compliance Manager Travis Thompson, several violations and infractions at the Bristow casino. According to Chief Ellis' testimony, he believed the audit report unveiled problems at the Bristow casino that could put the Nation's entire gaming operation in jeopardy, as the MCN holds one single licence with the N.I.G.C. With this in mind, Chief Ellis took a request to put the Bristow Community under the operation of the Gaming Operations Authority Board to the National Council and was denied. The Principal Chief then issued an executive proclamation and the casino was put under the authority of his office. His defense argued that he had the right to re-entry under

MCNA Title 11 4-302. The defendant attorneys have also argued that the case is irrelevant and should be thrown out because of the sovereign immunity of the Chief's Office and due to the fact that the four criteria for a preliminary injunction have not been met by the plaintiff.

Bristow community alleges that their sovereignty has been compromised by the proclamation and that taking the day-to-day operation of the gaming facility away will do significant harm to the community. They also have argued that as a chartered community of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, their rights have been violated. They maintain that the right to re-entry argument is to prevent damage, waste or abandonment and does not include or contemplate the power to "confiscate, maintain and manage all financial resources, funds, assets, records, contracts, bank accounts, bank records and all other documents related to the gaming enterprise."

A motion to dismiss the case was made on day one by lead defense attorney Rod Wiemer and Timothy Posey, but was denied by Judge Moore. After another day of testimony, the defense chose to rest its case and a motion to file a brief was granted for plaintiff's counsel. Judge Moore then called for a recess. A decision on the case will not be available at press time but will be reviewed in the August issue of the Muscogee Nation News.

Statements and information in this article were collected from court documents and court records.



Pictured above is the trial Plaintiff Attorney G. Steven Stidham presenting the case to Judge Patrick Moore.
Jason Salsman/MNN

Future Training and Job Opportunities for Welders

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — On Thursday, June 28, 2007, Robert Couse and R.J. Alexander of Bechtel Construction Operations had an exploratory meeting coordinated by the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise, with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis to explore the possibility to offer training to Creek citizens. The meeting was held to inform Chief Ellis about the opportunities that Bechtel can

offer to the people in the area and to see if Chief Ellis and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation would be interested in a welding certification program in the future. Others participating in the meeting were Michael Nalley, Director, MNBE; Woody Anderson, Business Development Manager for MNBE; Dana Minnick, Manager, Creek Nation JTPA Program and David Dragnich with the Winslow Group.

In the United States today, there is a significant shortage of skilled craft workers. Bechtel has a number of projects booked in the U.S. and are looking for new ways to find labor resources. Bechtel realizes they cannot fill all of their future craft workforce needs from the existing labor pool, so they developed a training program for people who are interested in learning a skill or trade in the construction

industry.

The idea behind this project is to take individuals who may or may not have had experience in welding and by the end of the course put them on projects across the US. Bechtel has completed pilot tests of this program, so they know it is effective and would like to bring the class to the Muscogee (Creek)

SEE WELDERS - A5



Pictured above from left to right are: David Dragnich, Robert Couse, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill. These men were present at the Bechtel exploratory meeting.
STARLA BUSH/MNN

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS - SECTION A

EXECUTIVE A2

Message from the Office of the Principal and Second Chief



TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings; Message from the desk of the Speaker George Tiger



BUSINESS A5

UPDATE: Creek Nation Tulsa Casino



HEALTH A6

Creek Nation Community Hospital Recognized for Commitment to Quality Improvement



CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

The new Tulsa Casino is in need of Cultural Artists or Craftspeople to add to its interior walls. A meeting will be held on July 25th, 2007 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium of the Mound building. Anyone interested in participating needs to call the National Council office at (918) 732-7966 by July 19th 2007.

LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of the Speaker

HE(N)SCI !!!

During the recent Oklahoma State Legislature session there were a number of bills introduced that pertained to Indian tribes that were of concern. However, Senate Bill 38 and House Bill 1423 received a lot of attention from tribal leaders. The two pieces of legislation were designated English as the official state language.



Tiger

Throughout the history of not only the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, but all tribes in Oklahoma their rich culture comes from the ability to speak the languages. These languages have withstood the test of time and

efforts to eliminate them. Tribal languages were spoken centuries before Oklahoma became a state. I referred to this bill as “divisive” and a bill targeting people of color for using their language.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation for a number of years has witnessed the revitalization of its language through various programs by funds appropriated by the National Council. The United Indian Nations of Oklahoma adopted a resolution supporting the National Alliance To Save Native Languages in effort to revitalize Native languages. In addition, another resolution supporting Grant programs authorized under the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act of 2006. All of these efforts reaffirm the support of our languages for the future.

Our elders use to say “if you lose your language, you lose your culture.” It is sad to hear of tribes who have lost their

language.

The author of the House Bill was George Faught of Muskogee. He was quoted by the state’s largest newspaper, The Oklahoman as saying, “to participate in society you need to be able to communicate with that society.” Jerry McPeak, a Muscogee tribal member and state legislator said “I’m embarrassed to be part of a Legislature that takes part in legislation like this.” Due to the work of McPeak and members of the Native American Caucus the bill was never heard on the floor.

I’ve always maintained as Muscogee people we are unique. Our government, communities, churches, ceremonials and judicial system are intertwined around our culture. Our language plays an important role in our culture and at each of the aforementioned.

Recently, we were visited by tribal members of the Navajo Nation. House

Speaker Morgan of their legislature and I exchanged information of the respective governments. He shared with me the proceeding of their legislature is done entirely in their language. Their court system allows for all proceedings in their language. The majority of their governmental proceedings are in their language.

Within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I witnessed the Okfuskee Creek community holds it monthly meeting and Chairman Simmer Hicks used the Muscogee language to conduct the entire meeting. What a proud moment for me personally to have been in the audience for that meeting.

One of the most impressive things in regards to the use of our tribal language being used in Creek Nation was during a recent Tribal court case. An elder of the tribe wanted to have the ability speak Creek in answering questions asked of him. Many of

our elders feel more comfortable by speaking Creek. It allows them to freely express themselves. An Interpreter was called for and found. An objection was aired by the attorney, Rod Weimer, his objection was based on the documents being in English and his questions should be answered in English. Judge Moore reminded Mr. Weimer he was in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and if the elder wanted to speak Creek he could speak Creek. Hear! Hear! I commend Judge Moore for allowing this to happen. After all, it is allowed in federal court if needed as I have served in a role as Interpreter for our elders in that court.

Our language is beautiful when spoken. Jokes are funnier and we can tease with a little more meaning in our language. Remember, our elders said don’t ever let our language die. Let’s honor our elders!

Thank you for your words of encouragement and until next month MVTO!

Muscogee (Creel) National Council Host “Operation Carry the Flame”
by Rita Williams

The Office of the Principal Chief and the National Council welcomed “Rolling Thunder Across America “Operation Carry The Flame” on May 21, 2007 held in the Creek Nation Mound Auditorium.

Each year Rolling Thunder Across America conducts an annual west coast to east coast ride, majority of which are motorcycles, to raise funds in support of Veteran’s families, Veteran’s issues and to increase awareness about America’s POW/MIA’s from all wars and joins others at our Nation’s Capitol on Memorial Weekend to “demonstrate” to our political leaders and others watching that our Warriors will never be forgotten.

Organizers from Arizona, Robert and Josie Delsi coordinated with the National Council office to plan this event with the first stop in Okemah. Welcoming the group from Okemah was the Okemah Indian Community presenting a fruit basket, the Mayor of Okemah Luna Burnett, and Dana Wilson, Editor of the Okemah Newsletter. Tribal leaders from the Okfuskee District were in attendance, Representative Lena Wind, Travis Scott and Bill Fife. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse escorted the riders from Okemah to Creek Nation.

Principal Chief Ellis and Speaker Tiger welcomed the riders and Blue Star Mothers, on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with a short program in their honor and ended with

a blessing and flame ceremony. On behalf of “Operation Carry The Flame,” Robert and Josie Delsi presented to Phillip Coon a “Warriors Medal Of Valor” certificate from the Native American Nations Of The United States Of America, which read, for valorous



Robert Delsi, Coordinator for Operation Carry The Flame presents Phillip Coon the “WARRIORS MEDAL OF VALOR CERTIFICATE”.

service while serving the United States of America in a military capacity. This conspicuous performance of duty represents great patriotism and pride in the finest traditions of the United States Armed Forces and reflects great credit upon the recipient and their military service. It is with great respect that the Native American Nations of the United States of America hereby present the Warriors Medal of Valor, we are grateful for your service, signed, Marshall Tall Eagle. Also presented to Mr. Coon was a POW/MIA flag.

On Tuesday, May 22, 2007 the Navajo Nation delegates, organized by Anita Barney Rez from the Navajo Nation, another group of this orga-

nization, stopped in Henryetta to be escorted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse Police to the Creek Nation. The National Council arranged a breakfast for them, sponsored by the Okmulgee Creek Nation Casino. Joanna King, Manager of the Okmulgee Creek Nation Casino Concessions was in charge of the breakfast.

A traditional exchange of gifts and words of appreciation was shared by Speaker Morgan of the Navajo Nation to give thanks for the hospitality and Speaker Tiger of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council as he welcomed our Navajo relatives during their journey through Creek Nation on their way to Washington, D.C.

“The Navajo Nation Council is honored to be a part of this event,” said Navajo Council Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan (Lyanbito/Pinedale). “We have to honor the Gold Star Mothers and Fathers who each lost a warrior during war. We honor their loss”.

Speaker Morgan added, “that he gives reverence to the Gold Star Mothers and Fathers because these parents have suffered the most. The grief and torment wrought by war fall on all sides, on friends and family members alike. The memorial bike run is for the heroes who are no longer here with us”.

The group believes the need for this awareness continues today and they will continue this tradition every May.

District Court

MCN v. Lazarrizk Hill
MCN v. Lazarrizk Hill
MCN v. Kimberly Fenn
MCN v. Kimberly Fenn
MCN v. Christopher Martin
MCN v. Justin Carter

MCN v. Justin Carter
MCN v. Justin Carter
MCN v. Rachael July
MCN v. Michael Johanson
MCN v. Michael Johanson
MCN v. Blake Williams
MCN v. Jeffery Gunther
MCN v. Gary Cox
MCN v. Gary Cox
MCN v. Gary Cox
MCN v. Whitney Wyatt

MCN v. Ricky Slankard
MCN v. Ricky Slankard
MCN v. Charles Coppin
MCN v. Munozodilo Hernandez
Alcoholic

MCN v. Munozodilo Hernandez
License
MCN v. Vernon Brownfield
MCN v. Al Bakri Bader
MCN v. Al Bakri Bader
MCN v. Al Bakri Bader
MCN v. Al Bakri Bader
MCN v. Al Bakri Bader
MCN v. Al Bakri Bader

DUS
Expired Tag
No Insurance
No Driver’s License
Disorderly Conduct
Possession of Illegal Drug
Paraphernalia
DUS
No Insurance
Expired Tag
No Insurance
Expired Tag
No Insurance
No Insurance
DUS
No Insurance
Expired Tag
Open Receptacle Containing
Alcoholic Beverage on Property
No Insurance
Expired Tag
DUS
Open Receptacle Containing
Beverage on Property
Driving without Valid Driver’s
License
Disorderly Conduct
Disorderly Conduct
No Seatbelt
Driving without Required Registration
No Insurance
DUS

Second Annual MCNC Golf Tournament
by Rita Williams

The National Council Golf Committee hosted their 2nd Annual Golf tournament held on June 8, 2007 at White Hawk Golf Course in Bixby. Tribes participating were Cherokee Nation, Absentee-Shawnee, and the Miami Tribe. Twenty-four teams entered the tournament.

First Place winners were, Ben Coffey, Bruce Palmer, Robbie Komacheet and Everett Moore. Second Place winners were, Pete Beaver, Will Freeman, Dean Hughes and Jess Youngblood. Third Place winners, Travis Scott, Randy Fixico, Bruce Dunson, and Tony Dean.

Fourth Place winners, Dale Miller, Dusty Miller, Nick Phillips, and Ben Phillips.

Winner for Longest Drive, 55 and under was, Troy Pakendol and Senior Longest Drive was Nate Dick. Closest to the pin was, David Stan. PGA ticket winners were Eugene Bible.

Committee members James Jennings, Pete Beaver and Travis Scott said the tournament could not have been a success without their sponsors, GOAB, Okemah Indian Community, Jeff Standingbear, and KONAMI. And those helping to put the



tournament together, Johnnie Green, Celeste Johnson, Rita Williams, Robert Deere, Stephanie Harry, and Kristie Harjo.

OIGA will have having Golf Tournament, Sunday August 5, 2007 at Cimarron National Golf Club at 500 Duff’s Way in Guthrie, Oklahoma. National Council representatives, Larry Bible, Pete Beaver, James Jennings and Travis Scott will represent the Muscogee (Creek) National Council at their event.



photo by Rita Williams
Speaker Tiger, and council staff, Stephanie Harry and Robert Deere, watch as Muskogee District Representative Pete Beaver presents golf prizes to winners.

National Council Ladies attend Native American Indian Women’s Conference
by Rita Williams

The National Indian Women’s Association held their national conference in Oklahoma City, June 3-6, 2007 at the Clarion Hotel.

The theme was “Unity of Family, Home and Community.”

The organization created in 1970 by Marie Cox, Comanche, and others to foster fellowship between American Indian women.

NAIWA was the first organization established solely to address the unique role of its members as both women and American In-

dians. The non-profit organization, whose founding was sponsored by the U.S Bureau of Indian Affairs, has for several years had a sizable contingent of Canadian members.

NAIWA’s members are women from federally recognized American Indian tribes. Though much of the organization’s agenda focuses on promoting the status of and opportunities for American Indian women in the country at large. Its underlying aims are to improve communication between



photo by Rita Williams
Tukvptche District Representative, Sylvanna Caulwell, Lt. Governor, Jeri Askins and Okfuskee District Representative, Lena Wind attend NAIWA Conference in Oklahoma City.

American Indians on the individual and tribal levels and to increase knowledge of American Indian Culture. To further these aims, local and regional sodalities throughout the United States and Canada hold an annual convention. There members discuss such issues as proper medical treatment, education and economic and social advancement.

Some of the keynote speakers throughout the conference were, Lt. Gov. Jeri Askins, Representative Lisa Billy and Jayne Myers.

The conference drew attendees from South Dakota, Cherokee, North Carolina, Texas, Kansas and Arizona. Those attending from the National Council were, Okfuskee District Lena Wind, Tukvptche District Representative Sylvanna Caldwell and council staff Liason, Rita Williams who was in charge of the registration and member of the Oklahoma Chapter NAIWA.

Hanna Communtiy receives new tractor



photo by Rita Williams
In May the Hanna Indian Community held their first ceremony with the arrival of their new John Deere Tractor. McIntosh District Tom Pickering authored legislation that would allow the first phase of the Hanna Farm Project to begin.

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 26, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION.

MARCH. 26, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

ABSENTS WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DUKE HARJO, KEEPER JOHNSON, LARRY BIBLE, THOMAS McINTOSH, TOM PICKERING** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR, (7-12-0) TR 07-040, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXERCISE TEMPORARY JURISDICTION AND CONTROL OVER THE BRISTOW INDIAN COMMUNITY GAMING CENTER, SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, ANTHONY NOTARO, EDDIE LaGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, AND SAM ALEXANDER.**

MAY 19, REGULAR SESSION

EXCUSED ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON**;
ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) NCR 07-003, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL ADOPTS “RULES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISCIPLINE ON ITS MEMBERS” SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; P. BEAVER; J. GREENE; D. HARJO; T. PICKERING; C. QUIETT; T. SCOTT**;

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCR 07-004, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL REASSERTING THE DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL IN SC 06-07 SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• APPROVED (24-0-0) NCR 07-005, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL APPROVING THE SPECIAL SERVICES ATTORNEY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AND GEOFFREY M. STANDING BEAR, P.C. SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-049, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE PRESERVATION AND REPATRIATION OF HUMAN REMAINS AND ARTIFACTS THAT MAY BE FOUND AT FORT BRAGG SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;

• APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-052, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TOLLING AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES THROUGH THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AN AFTER-THE-FACT PERMIT TO REDIRECT A STREAM AT THE INDUSTRIAL PARK SPONSOR: **LARRY BIBLE**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-1) TR 07-053, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE COMPLETION OF FOUR (4) DUPLEX BUILDINGS SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **THOMAS McINTOSH**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) TR 07-056, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ABANDON A RESERVED SECTION LINE IN OKFUSKEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA AND FILE AN ACTION TO DECLARE THE SECTION LINE ABANDONED AND QUIET TITLE TO THE EXISTING CREEK OWNER OF THE PROPERTY SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**;

• APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-059, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **MS. JOAN (GRAY) HENSON** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPON-

SOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-060, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **ANGELA DIANE BARNETT-MEEKER** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTION BOARD SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-078, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE CHECOTAH CASINO SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING (\$1,299,921.95)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-121, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE REVISION OF THE 2002 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-122, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE REVISION OF THE 2004 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-123, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE REVISION OF THE 2004 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-125, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REALTY DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SURVEYS FOR TRIBAL TRUST PROPERTY SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA; CO- JEFF FIFE (\$25,000.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-126, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF A 2006 BASIC LIBRARY SERVICES GRANT FROM THE NATIVE AMERICAN LIBRARY SERVICES PROGRAM SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

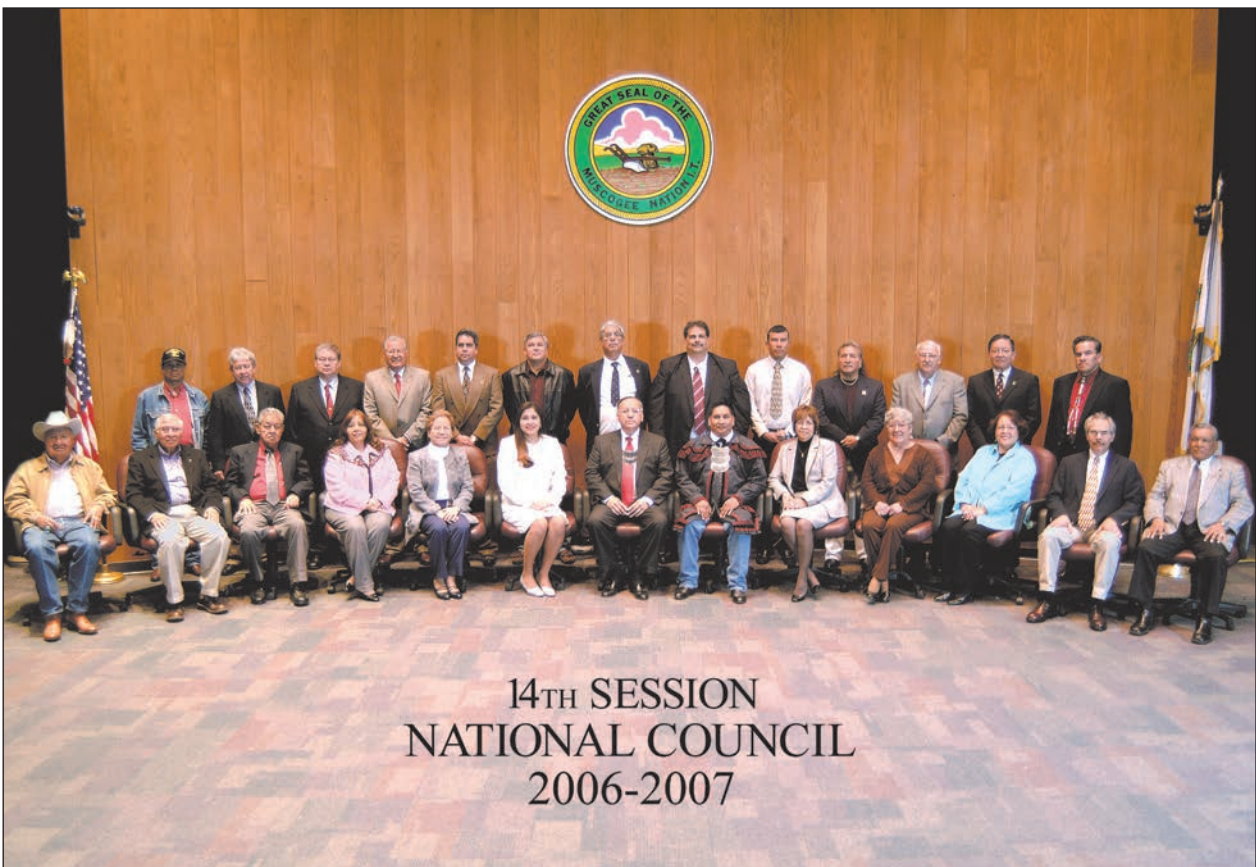
• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-127, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATURAL RESOURCES 2007 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET SPONSOR: **LARRY BIBLE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-128, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A MODULAR BUILDING FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS; CO-SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO (\$155,688.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-129, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, CHAPTER 8 TO PLACE IT UNDER MCNCA TITLE 16, TO BE ESTABLISHED AS MCNCA TITLE 16, CHAPTER 7 AND AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 16§ 1-102 TO MOVE THE REINTEGRATION PROGRAM FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TO THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND TO AMEND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH REORGANIZATION PLAN TO REFLECT SAID



CHANGE SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-130, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-029 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS FOR CREEK CITIZENS WHO ARE DIABETIC) TO INCLUDE THOSE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES AS A RESULT OF ACCIDENT OR OTHER ILLNESS SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-131, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO HICKORY GROUND INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH #2 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A TRACTOR SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING (\$18,250.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-132, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 17, §2-107, B., ENTITLED “BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS” SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-134, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO YARDEKA INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANCTUARY SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING; CO-SPONSOR: GEORGE TIGER (\$120,000.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-135, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE A VEHICLE EQUIPPED WITH A WHEELCHAIR LIFT THAT WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS FOR A CREEK CITIZEN WHO IS AFFLICTED WITH CEREBRAL PALSY AND PROVIDE A ONE (1) YEAR BUDGET THAT WILL ASSIST THE FAMILY WITH FUEL-RELATED MAINTENANCE AND UP-KEEP FOR THE VEHICLE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN (\$23,739.54)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-136, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO WEOGUFKEE INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING (\$21,228.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-137, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE

(CREEK) ASSOCIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE BUS SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING (\$9,850.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-138, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO MUSKOGEE ROUGHER SUMMER PRIDE TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS/SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$10,000.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-139, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE 2007 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-141, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO WELEETKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ASSIST WITH PURCHASING PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE (\$25,000.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-144, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR LEGAL COUNSEL SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT (\$80,000.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-145, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO MATCH FUNDS FOR TWO MEMBERS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, ONE TO ATTEND THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS STUDENTS OF AMERICA (HOSA) CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA AND ONE TO ATTEND THE 2007 WASHINGTON LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. YAHOLA; S. CALDWELL (\$2,100.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-146, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 36, §3-105, ENTITLED “REGISTRATION APPLICATION” SPONSOR: **EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-147, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO HIRE LEGAL COUNSEL TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOP A PLAN TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A FEDERAL CORPORATE CHARTER

ON BEHALF OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO (\$40,000.00)**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-148, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY OF THE OKLAHOMA INDIAN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE FOR THE ARCHIVES AND HISTORY OIMC BOOK PROJECT SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT (\$21,446.67)**;

JUNE 11, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENTS WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **ROBERT JONES, EXCUSED; LARRY BIBLE; AND RICHARD BERRYHILL**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• KILLED (22-0-0) TR 07-015, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE PROJECT BUDGET FOR THE NEW CREEK NATION TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-061, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE PROJECT BUDGET OF THE NEW CREEK NATION TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

NATIONAL COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

JUNE 14, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENTS WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **THOMAS McINTOSH; PETE BEAVER, EXCUSED; LENA WIND; BILL FIFE; BO JOHNSON; LARRY BIBLE, EXCUSED; CHERRAH QUIETT; AND RICHARD BERRYHILL**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED (17-0-0) TR 07-065, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES CHILD CARE PROVIDER CONTRACTS FOR THE NATION TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENTS FROM THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA FOR CHILD CARE SERVICES SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**;

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** ARRIVED;

• APPROVED (18-0-0) TR 07-066, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE FOSTER CARE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE NATION TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA FOR FOSTER CARE SERVICES SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**;

• APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 07-133, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE HASKELL UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL CAMP AND PROGRAM SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER (\$1,500.00)**;

• APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 07-158, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN FOR TEEN CHALLENGE PROGRAM SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. CLEGHORN; P. BEAVER; G. TIGER (\$2,400.00)**

Tulsa Casino Update



Nicholas Howk/MNN

CREEK NATION
Casino

Tulsa • 81st & Riverside
www.creeknationcasino.com

Progress Being Made

TULSA – Despite the excessive rainy weather in green country and at the site of the new Tulsa Casino construction crews have kept moving toward progress. In the month of June, 20 rainy days plus 10 muddy days equal 30 days of progress even though the weather was bad. Jerry Lawson, the owner’s representative and site manager reported that structural steel erections were placed. Along with storm sewer installation, progress has not stopped due to the rains. The crews did the majority of the preparatory work for the concrete placements. As soon as the weather improves concrete production will resume. Lawson works along with Jack Chaney and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Oversight Committee. The construction company for the casino is Native American owned FLINTCO.

Ruth Bible/MNN

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise

Welders

continued from A1

Nation area. The goal is for Bechtel to conduct a training course for people who are interested in learning and entering into the mainstream workforce.

This program would be a 16 week long course where students would spend forty hours-a-week learning the trade of welding. After completion of the course, the individuals would be expected to go where the work is and could make a starting wage in excess of 20 dollars-an-hour depending on their individual skill. The course would be designed to make commuting easy on the students by presenting it as close to where they are presently living as possible. The goal is not to have a central point were everyone involved has to drive to one place. They do not want people to have to move into an area just for the 16 week program,



so that is why they would have different class sites according to the location of the individuals.

This training course would only be open to those individuals over 18 years of age and willing to take assignments on Bechtel projects. Presently Bechtel has projects in such places as Texas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Illinois and Ohio but also has potential work in Nevada, Utah and other western states. Also, each individual would have to be drug and alcohol free and would be subject to random drug tests in accordance with Bechtel’s standard project safety programs.

After completing the course, individuals will be certified as structural or pipe welders depending on the individual’s abilities.

Individuals getting into this program would have to know that this class is very intense. This course is intended to teach the basic fundamentals to the point when an individual completes

the program they would be able to take their newly learned skill straight into production.

Interested individuals should consider this opportunity as a first step in a very rewarding career. Many individuals who began their careers by learning a welding trade have gone on to work in other capacities within Bechtel or other companies. Some have served as welding engineers who train and monitor the performance of other welders. Many others have chosen to develop their own welding/construction companies after having gained experience in the welding field.

The main reason Bechtel visited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was to see if there is a mutual interest in this program. This process is in the exploratory stage now, to see if there is enough interest to make it mutually beneficial.

If you are in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation area and are interested in this program or would like to learn more about it please contact: Woody Anderson, MNBE Business Development Manager, at (918)-752-3154 or at wanderson@mnbe.com

Koweta Designs Unlimited

COWETA — Koweta Designs Unlimited is the embroidery business owned and operated by the Koweta Indian Community. This economic development endeavor was made possible by a grant from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the amount of \$350 thousand. Mr. Richard Berryhill is the Council Member who was determined to see the community receive this grant. Mr. Berryhill wrote the legislation that was approved by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

Koweta Community wants to create a strong business to create jobs and revenue for the community. The community will use these revenues for the community. The community will use these revenues for activities and services. The company opened at the end of January 2006. Their first project was to embroider a logo on canvas bags for Judge Moore at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The bag turned out great and more business came to Koweta Designs Unlimited.

Customers can bring designs to Koweta Designs Unlimited and Kay

Meadows, manager, will digitize their design for the embroidery machine to replicate on the material. If the design is already to go, the process is easier. There are two large embroidery machines with six heads on each ma-



Pictured above are Kay Meadows (left) and Kristi Kidreth. These two ladies are responsible for running the Koweta Indian Community Embroidery Shop.

chine. This allows for 12 logos to be embroidered at the same time.

Embroidery can be applied to canvas or cloth. Bags, caps, aprons, T-shirts, golf shirts, shorts, headbands, and wristbands are just a few of the items Koweta Designs Unlimited has embroidered.

All quotes are specialty jobs, so call for your quote. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. till 4 p.m. The phone number is (918) 486-7377, or e-mail Kay Meadows at kowetadesignsunlimited@yahoo.com.

Plans are underway to develop the business and receive a minority

status on the Koweta Designs Unlimited and to compete in the corporate markets diversity programs. Their embroidery business can embroider the lush towels and bathrobes needed for the more sophisticated hotels. So many opportunities are available for economic development at this time for Koweta Indian Community.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade & Commerce Authority will help facilitate business opportunities for the community and develop their business plan along with a marketing strategy during this new fiscal year.

Koweta Indian Community is located on 10 acres of tribally owned land and even

more opportunities can come out of this location in the future. Councilman Richard Berryhill has his eyes open to more economic development on this site. The community as a whole is proactive in creating a future for their children and grandchildren.

Drop in early and visit the showroom of Koweta Designs Unlimited. Come eat breakfast or lunch at the elderly nutrition program. You may find a T-shirt, cap or bag you must take with you while you are there. Koweta Indian Community has the right idea on community economic development by creating a future for the community members.

LEGALNOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF:

J.M.

DOB: 02-15-04
Alleged Deprived Child

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Sayward Martinez, natural mother of J.M.
Lka: Coweta, OK

Case No. JV-2002-06

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **10th** day of **September, 2007** at **9:00** a.m.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

BUSINESSNOTES

Renewable Energy for Tribal Community Development A strategic Energy Planning Workshop

DENVER — The recent increases in costs for heating and cooling, cooking, lights and transportation and , in many instances lack thereof, are a particular challenge to many tribal homeowners and communities. New Energy Efficient and Renewable Energy (EERE) technologies are becoming more widely available at ever lower prices, and can reduce costs. As tribal communities strive to become self governing at the local level, the adoption of a community energy plan should play a major role in the future economic development of the community. By incorporating EERE technologies, tribal communities can create new jobs, improve the local economy, and reduce dependence on outside institutions, thereby improving tribal community and individual sovereignty.

This unique course will help tribal leaders and staff understand the range of EERE opportunities that exist within their communities. The course will focus on:

- determining community energy values and objectives,
- developing the outline of a tribal strategic energy plan,
- exploring how EERE technologies can be used to help meet tribal objectives,
- organizing for tribal community success.

The course is designed to be very interactive, seeking to balance new technical information with practical understanding of local energy opportunities.

The workshop is sponsored by U.S. Department of Energy – National Renewable Energy Laboratory: Tribal Energy Program.

This workshop is focused on tribal energy, economic development, housing, and sustainable tribal communities. Tribal Community planners working to reduce reservation energy costs, improve tribal energy self-sufficiency and engage tribal youth in local job creation; tribal community college instructors in environment, sciences, or trade skills that would like to improve course relevancy to tribal youth and the needs of the local community; and tribal entrepreneurs seeking to expand business activities into renewable energy and energy efficiency technology sales and implementation will all benefit from participation.

If you can, bring the best tribal map (or collection of maps) you can find showing the location of communities, rivers, topography, roads, transmission lines and other significant features. Tribal renewable resource maps will be provided, as available.

The workshop will be held at the Renaissance Denver Hotel located at 3801 Quebec St., Denver, CO 80207 (303) 399-7500.

This course if offered free of charge for tribal members and BIA employees. Travel and per diem are the individual’s responsibility.

HEALTH

From the Desk of the CEO
Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted by Judy Aaron, Chief Executive Officer

Greetings Tribal Members!
Did you realize your important role to our Health System if you are enrolled in Medicare, Medicaid or SoonerCare and Private Insurance? The Health System does not receive adequate funding to serve the Native American population within our service area from the Federal Government. The expectation as outlined in Federal law is the remainder of funding will be collected through other sources of billing such as Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. This is the same for all tribes managing their health systems and for Indian Health Service facilities as well. You can assist us in our efforts to improve our third party collections if you have some type of coverage and we can assist you also. If you have a third party coverage the health system can assist in meeting your deductible at the beginning of the year as we bill visits. Also, as a patient this can assist us in options for your care. Although we have Contract Health Services funding, it is not enough to meet all of our patients care needs. If you have a type of coverage the referral process

could go through your third party coverage plan rather than Contract Health. The choices you will have to be aware of



Judy Aaron

is whether you will incur a percentage of the cost or if you will have a co-pay. But it is important for you as a patient to look at this option when time is of the essence in obtaining health care. When the health system collects third party funding, the funds are used for renovation projects, the addition of staff, the purchase of equipment and the expansion of new services. This is why

it is important we receive your information to be able to bill your third party coverage. If you are Native American we do not bill you for services you have received if your eligibility has been determined through tribal membership documents. If you ever have any questions regarding statements you receive, Explanation of Benefits (EOB) documents or just about our efforts in billing please contact the Patient Benefits Coordinator or the health system Administrator at your clinic location.

We are currently purchasing Radiology equipment for the Health System at Okemah, Sapulpa, and Eufaula over the next two months based largely upon third party collections.

The total cost of purchasing the much needed equipment was \$1.2 million. Our next goal with third party funds is to beginning setting aside an amount each year to begin construction of new facilities – this is a big goal and we hope you can help us reach it. As always, we at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System are honored in serving you.

DOCTOR's NOTE

Extreme Heat

Submitted by Zack Anderson MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer

School is out and summer is finally here, after having a very wet spring. I would like to share this message with you to help prepare you for the heat and decrease your risk of some heat related medical issues. Heat-related deaths and illnesses are preventable, yet annually many people succumb to extreme heat. Historically, from 1979-2003, excessive heat exposure caused 8,015 deaths in the United States. During this period, more people in this country died from extreme heat than from hurricanes, lightning, tornadoes, floods, and earthquakes combined. In 2001, 300 deaths were caused by excessive heat exposure.

Heat Stroke-
Heat stroke occurs when the body is unable to regulate its temperature. The body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability, if emergency treatment is not provided.

Recognizing Heat Stroke-
Warning signs of heat stroke vary, but may include the following: an extremely high body temperature (above 103°F, orally); red, hot and dry skin (no sweating)

Rapid, strong pulse, throbbing headache, dizziness, nausea, confusion and unconsciousness

What to Do: If you see any of these signs, you may be dealing with a life-threatening emergency. Have someone call for immediate medical assistance while you begin cooling the victim. Do the following:

Get the victim to a shady area.
Cool the victim rapidly using whatever methods you can. For example, immerse the victim in a tub of cool water, place the person in a cool shower, spray the victim with cool water from a garden

hose, sponge the person with cool water or if the humidity is low, wrap the victim in a cool, wet sheet and fan him or her vigorously.

Monitor body temperature, and continue cooling efforts until the body temperature drops to 101-102°F.

If emergency medical personnel are delayed, call the hospital emergency room for further instructions.



Zack Anderson

Do not give the victim fluids to drink.

Get medical assistance as soon as possible.

Sometimes a victim's muscles will begin to twitch uncontrollably because of heat stroke. If this happens, keep the victim from injuring himself, but do not place any object in the mouth and do not give fluids. If there is vomiting, make sure the airway remains open by turning the victim on his or her side.

Heat Exhaustion-
Heat exhaustion is a milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after several days of exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids. It is the body's response to an excessive loss of the

water and salt contained in sweat. Those most prone to heat exhaustion are elderly people, people with high blood pressure and people working or exercising in a hot environment.

Recognizing Heat Exhaustion
Warning signs of heat exhaustion include the following: heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea, or vomiting, fainting

The skin may be cool and moist. The victim's pulse rate will be fast and weak, and breathing will be fast and shallow. If heat exhaustion is untreated, it may progress to heat stroke. Seek medical attention immediately if any of the following occurs:

Symptoms are severe -
The victim has heart problems or high blood pressure,

Otherwise, help the victim to cool off, and seek medical attention if symptoms worsen or last longer than one hour.

What to Do-
Cooling measures that may be effective include the following: cool, nonalcoholic beverages, rest, cool shower, bath, or sponge bath, an air-conditioned environment, lightweight clothing.

Sunburn-
Sunburn should be avoided because it damages the skin. Although the discomfort is usually minor and healing often occurs in about a week, a more severe sunburn may require medical attention.

Recognizing Sunburn-
Symptoms of sunburn are well known: the skin becomes red, painful and abnormally warm after sun exposure.

What to Do-
Consult a doctor if the sunburn affects an infant younger than one year of age or if these symptoms are present: fever or fluid-filled blisters.

Creek Nation Community Hospital Recognized for Commitment to Quality Improvement

Oklahoma City—June 27, 2007—The Creek Nation Community Hospital was awarded a plaque and a certificate of special recognition for its participation in reporting hospital quality data to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) National Data Warehouse and for improving patient care.

Fourteen other Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) received certificates of special recognition and plaques at the 2007 Oklahoma Hospital Quality Conference hosted by the Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality on June 15. CAHs are small rural hospitals that provide critical medical care in rural communities, but often have limited resources and personnel.

In the state of Oklahoma there are thirty-three such hospitals. The Creek Nation Community Hospital was the last hospital in the state to convert

to become a Critical Access Hospital.

Data is collected on hospitalized patients with diagnoses of Pneumonia, Heart Failure and Heart Attack. The measures for the clinical conditions are based on extensive scientific evidence dem-

onstrating their efficacy in improving quality of care for patients hospitalized with conditions that affect the Medicare population nationwide. CMS makes the performance information reported by hospitals available to the public at www.medicare.gov.

“OMFQ is pleased to present Creek Nation Community Hospital with this award of recognition,” said Donna Piatt, Quality Improvement Specialist at OFMQ. “The hospital leadership and staff have demonstrated a commitment to excellence by dedicating resources to improving quality and safety for their patients.” The leadership for the project was lead by Jo Ann Skaggs, Hospital Administrator, Sheryl Sharber R.N., Director of Nursing, Rick O’Mara M.A. M.B.A., Performance Improvement Officer and Dr. Zack Anderson M.D., M.P.H., Chief Medical Officer for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health System.



The names from left to right is; Jim Williams, President & CEO of OFMQ, Rick O'mara, QA/QI Officer, Dr. Kent Towsley Principal Clinical Coordinator at OFMQ

HEALTHNOTES

6th Annual Women's Health Summit

MCN Diabetes Program: Kimberlee Little Eufaula Exercise Programs Manager

EUFAULA — The Eufaula Indian Health Center will be holding their sixth Annual Women's Health Summit on Wednesday, August 1st.

Starting at 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Eufaula Indian Community Center (formerly Reil Rock Skating Rink) on Burkes access road.

The agenda for the day includes, a speaker from OU Medical Center, focusing on women's health issues and Tania Bardin, victims advocate with

the Muscogee Creek Nation Family Violence Prevention Program.

Exhibitor booths from various healthcare organizations, door prizes and a free luncheon is also planned.

Please call the Women's Health Clinic at 918-689-2540 ext. 227 or 223 for free registration.

Everyone is welcome, but you must register by July 18th and be present at health summit to receive free T-shirt designed especially for women.

Summer-Time Family Exercise

MCN Diabetes Program Koweta Exercise Program Manager Dewayne Tiger

Summer is here, and it's time for kids to be outside playing. However, with all of the technology out there in today's world, our youth are spending too much time on the couch watching T.V., playing video games, or surfing the internet. Trying to motivate our children to get outside and play is a challenge for any parent.

Think back to when you were a kid and you knew the fun things were outside so you were outside playing and sweating. So what can you do to get your kids outside? Here are a few tips to un-lazy your kids.

Instead of just telling them to “Go Play”, be proactive and set the example. After a hard days work, do some activities with your children to reduce some stress. Do a family activity such as going to the park and playing as a family or walking the dog through the neighborhood. On the weekend, plan a family activity by planting some flowers or a tree together in your yard.

Kids are more likely to get out there if the parents are willing to go and do an activity with them, plus you are spending quality time together while burning calories.

Before you know it, everyone's energy level will increase and you will actually find yourself and your youngsters getting in shape and shedding a few stubborn pounds.

Do you remember tire swings? If you have a tree, you can find an old tire, get some rope from the hardware store and you are creating an activity

that some younger kids have never tried before. It's all about being creative and finding activities that kids have never tried or adding a twist to an activity they have tried.

You might be surprised how your kids will be more involved if you set the example or are willing to exercise with them. Be daring and try an activity that you haven't played in years. For example, tennis, frisbee, flag football, horseshoes, bike riding, taking a hike or even swimming are easy group activities that everyone can have fun while burning some calories.

On the nutrition side, start setting out plenty of water for kids to drink. If it is handy and accessible kids will drink it. Hide the pop and candy and replace it with chilled fruit, sugar-free or diet drinks, raisins, dried fruit and nuts. There are plenty of great tasting sugar-free snacks and drinks out there and you will be surprised what your kids will eat or drink when it is available and healthy!

In a way you are trying to out-smart your kids by making exercise fun. The majority of the time, kids do not realize they are exercising if they are having fun.

As a parent, grandparent or mentor, we are the ones to set the example. If we lie around, eat junk food, and drink soda, they are more likely to fall into the same unhealthy habits.

It is better to teach by example in a fun and enjoyable way. Remember, exercise is supposed to be fun.

DIABETES MANAGEMENT

Koweta Indian Health Facility Stephanie Peak BSN, RN Diabetes Educator/Coordinator

Are you having difficulty controlling your diabetes? One of the most important things you can do is to “know your numbers”.

Your A1c measures your average blood glucose over the last three months. Persons with diabetes should get their A1c checked at least twice a year.

Key Steps for Lowering A1c: eat the right foods; get daily physical activity; test blood glucose regularly; and take medications as prescribed. The A1c Goal is less than 7%.

Self Blood Glucose Monitoring:

People with diabetes have an important role in their own medical care. Self blood glucose monitoring is an opportunity for these people to take control of their health.

The main goal of treatment is to

keep blood glucose levels in the normal or near-normal range. Monitoring blood glucose levels is one of the best ways of determining how well a diabetes treatment plan is working.

Fine-tuning of blood glucose levels and treatment requires patients to monitor their own blood glucose levels on a day-to-day basis.

Self blood glucose monitoring allows patients to know their blood glucose level at any time and helps prevent the immediate and potentially serious consequences of very high or very low blood glucose.

Monitoring also enables tighter blood glucose control, which decreases the long-term risks of diabetic complications.

KNOW YOUR ABC's: A = A1c, B = Blood Pressure, C = Cholesterol

Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. preventing and reducing Indian Diabetes everyday summer youth Diabetes Prevention Camps

The Community Diabetes Prevention program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will offer Five different 4 Day Summer Youth Camps that stresses healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention.

The first threedays will include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, and FUN. The last day will be a field trip to BIG SPLASH in Tulsa, Ok.

These camps will be for any American Indian youth 10-15 years of age. Campers must have a chart at one of the Creek Nation Clinics or have a CDIB card.

Each camp will take the first 35 youth to sign up and priority will be given to first time campers.

More information about the camp location will be provided upon registration.

Holdenville Youth Camp - July 16th – 19th

Call for registration 1-800-219-9458 ext. 456

Deadline for Registration is July 6th.

Henryetta Youth Camp – July 23rd - 26th

Call for registration 1-918-756-9911 ext. 255

Deadline for Registration is July 13th.

Checotah Youth Camp – July 30th – Aug. 2nd

Call for registration 1-918-689-2540 ext. 254

Deadline for Registration is July 20th.

Koweta Youth Camp – July 31st - Aug. 3rd

Call for registration 1-918-279-3398

Deadline for Registration is July 20th.

Sapulpa Youth Camp – Aug. 6th – 9th

Call for registration 1-918-224-9310 ext. 238

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

HOUSINGDIVISION

Policy change makes building on restricted Indian land easier

For the first time since the Muscogee Nation Home Ownership Program was established, Housing will build a Home Ownership house on Restricted Indian land. This may not sound notable to most Creek Citizens, but if they had ever applied for a house through the Lease With Option to Purchase Program and wanted to use restricted land as the location for the home they would be well aware of the importance of this change.

In the past all applicants in the Lease With Option to Purchase Program were required to remove any restriction on their donated land before Housing would build a home on it. Anybody whose has ever tried removing the restriction from their

land knows the difficulty and financial costs often involved. Frequently the land is undivided and there are numerous heirs making the task even more difficult. Also by removing the restriction, the land and any structures on the land are subject to property taxes. To a Lease With Option to Purchase homeowner, who usually has a fixed or lower income this could be an overwhelming problem.

With the new changes in policy, housing can now build on donated restricted land without lifting the restrictions. By keeping the restricted status land on the land no real estate taxes will have to be paid by the homebuyer after the home is paid off. Also just by avoiding the task

of removing the restriction is a real benefit.

“Previously just the fact of having to remove the restriction discouraged applicants from using restricted Indian land, often their home place and the only land they owned, as donated land for use in the Homeownership Program”, said Development Manager, Geri Berryhill. “Now that the policy has changed we would like to encourage citizens who may have been removed from the program because of the restricted land policy to make inquiries to the Housing Admissions Department about whether the change could now help their land situation.”



HOUSING BEGINS FINAL PHASE OF ELDERLY HOUSING PROJECT

The Housing Division began the final phase of the Elderly Housing Addition. Chief A.D. Ellis and other dignitaries broke ground on what will complete the planned 24 unit Housing Addition. The groundbreaking included a song and prayer by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and an address by Chief Ellis. The final contract was awarded to Creek contractor, Harris Contracting.



INDIAN HOMES GET A NEW LOOK

Diving down a road or street you could often guess which houses were build by the Home Ownership Program. Mainly because they were almost all built exactly the same. Rectangular in shape with a car port at one end. The Housing Division is trying to get away from that stereotype by giving Home Owners more options in how their homes look. Home owners now have the choices of several different floor plans. They can pick the brick color and texture, roof color, carpet color and various other choices. We want to give the home owner as much opportunity as possible in making their home something they can be proud of, said Housing employee, Ivan Pulliam.

PROGRAMHIGHLIGHTS

“Good Times”

Have you ever heard the saying, “When it bleeds, it leads.” This statement infers that for news to be interesting it has to involve blood. The time has come for good news to have the spotlight. This new column is entitled “Good Times” and is centered around the good things that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation does for its people. My name is Nicholas Howk and I am the “New Kid on the Block” here at the Muscogee Nation News. I have always had a vision to spread news that focused on the positive things in life. Well, in this column I will be able to do



Nicholas Howk
howk_nicholas@yahoo.com

just that. I urge the readers of this column to take a look at the world around them and help me in finding stories about the good things the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is doing for its people. The stories in the “Good Times” section may tug at your heart and give you that warm feeling inside, but these stories are more than just a good feeling. I challenge whoever is reading about these events to pay close attention to the messages and remember there are good incidents that happen around us. All we have to do is pay attention.

A Chief with a Heart

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

WETUMKA — Approximately the first week of June, Wetumka resident Letha Randall found herself in a situation that was out of her control. With the recent reoccurrence of the Oklahoma rain storms, Randall’s lawn, along with many other people in the state, had grown to a point where something had to be done. Although Randall did not like the looks of her yard, she was unable to do anything to resolve the problem. A few days later Randall received a visit from her landlord. Randall’s landlord proceeded to tell her if she did not do something about her grass then the city was going to fine her a maximum fine of 119 dollars.



Letha Randall

After receiving this news Randall broke down and began to cry. She knew there was nothing she could do and immediately fell into a further state of depression. Randall said, “I couldn’t have paid anyone a quarter if I had to.” Randall has lived a tough life and has several reasons for being so distraught in what seemed to be such a small problem. Randall’s ailments are; congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), arthritis and depression. If her health problems aren’t enough, Randall is also living on a fixed income, which barely pays her monthly rent and utilities. With her current financial and health status, Randall seemed to have no means of getting someone to cut her grass for her.

After a short period of time, Randall was able to compose herself enough to try to solve the problem on her own. If her health problems were not enough, Randall was in the process of recovering from two shoulder surgeries and was unable to pull the rope on her lawn mower. Randall sat and thought for a while and became so desperate that she began rummaging through her house and found two pairs of sewing scissors. After locating the scissors, Randall made her way out of her house and got situated on the ground and began to cut her grass blade by blade. If the situation was not already bad enough, Randall could not even crawl around on her hands and knees because her two knees are in desperate need of replacing. Not being able to crawl around on her hands and knees, Randall was forced to sit down on the ground and work in one area at a time.

The process of cutting her grass with scissors went on for about thirty-minutes. In that short time Randall’s fingers became blistered and the heat began to bare down on her. After cutting her grass for a while,

Randall received another visitor, but this time it was not a bearer of bad news. It was Carolyn Fish, van driver for the Wetumka Nutrition Center. Fish was making her daily visit delivering lunches when she saw Randall sitting on the ground. Fish proceeded to ask Randall what she was doing. With tears in her eyes Randall told Fish the situation she was in.

Immediately, Fish made Randall go in the house because it was too hot and she did not need to be out in that kind of heat. Fish left Randall’s house and made her way back to the Nutrition Center where she began telling some of her co-workers about Randall’s situation. After hearing the story one co-worker pointed and told Fish to talk to the man across the room. With his back

to her, Fish had no idea who she was about to talk to. When she approached the man, he turned around and much to her surprise it was Chief A.D. Ellis. Fish continued across the room, introduced herself and explained to Chief Ellis the situation she had just witnessed.

Later on that day, Randall heard someone outside her house and she assumed it was someone coming to fine her. After a few minutes there was a knock at the door and a man began to talk to Randall about her lawn and then introduced Chief Ellis. That afternoon the same man who had introduced Chief Ellis came back to Randall’s house and cut the grass. After the man had finished, he knocked on the door once again and told Randall he would be back in two weeks to cut the grass again. The only words that Randall could utter through her crying was, “A Chief with a heart.” And that is what she thinks of him to this day. All Randall’s worries about her grass were gone in just a few hours. Randall wants Chief Ellis to know that he will always be in her prayers and it was an honor for him to be at her house.

This small act of kindness may not mean much to some people, but to sixty-year-old Randall it was worth more than a million dollars. This incident helped a woman to rid herself of some unwanted stress and has allowed her to go to sleep at night and want to wake up in the morning. Some people may wonder just how this small act could change someone’s life so much, this story just goes to show that even the smallest compassionate gestures can have the greatest impacts on people’s lives.

Don’t forget to keep your eyes out for the “Good Times” in life because if they are small, you just might miss them.

ELDERLY NEWSsenior services offers new program



Jackson Barnett
Elderly Activities Coordinator

The senior services program of Creek Nation has finalized plans and agreements to provide lawn grass cutting and tree limb branch trimming for creek elders who can no longer do this work for themselves.

The agreements is the Thunderbird Youth Academy located in Pryor, Oklahoma. Thunderbird is an alternative school that helps its students to-

ward earning their GED’s. In addition the their school work the cadets earn points or credits by working off campus out in communities. This is how I heard about thunderbird and why I began negotiations with their staff to work with our Creek Elders.

This service has been needed for as long as I have worked for creek nation and now I believe this help for our seniors will become a reality. All along I had been receiving calls for this kind of assistance. But, unfortunately, I had to tell our seniors no service of this kind is available. I tired to start this help some year and a half ago, but legalities prevented me.

Just within the past month, the very thing that we will try to prevent happened right here in Okmulgee I received a call that during some high winds a branch had broken and

fallen onto the back part of an elder’s home.

The agreement with thunderbird is as follows: they will provide the manpower and the senior services program will furnish the work sites and all necessary equipment. The work sites will be stacked up in one area that work day so as to prevent us from having to travel too far form job to job.

More about the work to be done. The new service will provide grass/lawn cutting and tree trimming, branch overhanging homes. We will be able to cut limbs and remove them from tops of homes. We will not, unfortunately, be able to remove them off the premises. If possible, we may be able to rake up the cut grass and bag it for removal.

Please understand that we will

receive lots of calls and we will do our best to help as many of our elders as possible. Also when you call us for service, please we ask that if you are an elder, 55 and over and you are unable to do this kind or work any more.

The current class of cadets at Tunderbird will graduate and leave on the 30th of June, 2007. The next class will arrive on the 16th of July. Three weeks is required for the new class to get settled in and acclimated. It is these students that will be working with our senior services program to provide this much needed service. From all indication, the third week in august should be the beginning date. The contract with thunderbird will be in effect through the 31st of October.

Since the service is very new, we will try to work through any problems

that may arise. We will learn as we go along to smooth out the rough spots. But I envision good thins for our creek elders and could be the beginning of a worthwhile endeavor.

I wish to thank Danna Minnick of Employment and Training for her suggesting thunderbird academy, Mr.. James Pratt, the Controller, for his approval to purchase the necessary equipment, Kevin Dellinger and Kasier Mckensie of the Attorney General’s office for writing up the contract with Thunderbird, Mr.. Claude Sumner and Principal Chief Ellis for endorsing my project, and lastly the cadets or our new found partner who will be doing all the labor, thunderbird academy.

I am pleased to make this announcement. MVTO and Sincerely Jackson Barnett.

EDUCATION

JOM STUDENTS ENJOY SUMMER



photo submitted

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

On June 19, 20 and 21, 20 students from schools across the state attended the Johnson O'Malley summer conference. The JOM program serves 46 school districts, with 15,500 students, and this year because of budget cuts each tribe did their own summer conference. The students that attended this conference represent 13 schools which included; Dewar, Eufaula, Glenpool, Graham, Holdenville, Kiefer, Mason, Morris, Okemah, Porter, Preston, Sapulpa and Union Tulsa.

During the conference the students attended workshops, took field trips and played games with each other. In addition to the workshops and games, the students were also given the chance to watch a demonstration of a stompdace, make crafts and attend conferences on tobacco awareness. One major event that took place was serving the elders a meal at lunch. The students were given a first-hand opportunity to serve someone, which helped them learn more respect for their elders. The main goals throughout the conference were to help the students conduct themselves as proper citizens, develop leadership skills and learn how to be more respectful of their elders. They even learned tasks

as simple the proper way to shake someone's hand. The JOM program hopes to help the students involved be better citizens as they interact with society.

The summer conference is not the only thing that the JOM program offers to its students. The JOM program has specific goals to help the Native American students in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation area. Some major goals that the program focuses on are; to provide a comprehensive program that encumbers academic education, cultural awareness and community involvement according to the guidelines of the federal regulations governing the JOM programs, and to provide technical assistance to assure that all of the school sites within the Creek Nation service area are in compliance with the federal guidelines and that each school site provides for parental involvement that will ultimately result in the academic success of the American Indian Students.

When asked what he thought about the JOM program, Dusty Todd, Porter eighth grader said, "I like getting to learn stuff about my Indian heritage." Todd also referenced getting to help out with the elders by saying, "It's pretty cool getting to help

out with the elders because one day someone might help you."

Even though the focus may seem to be on the students, the JOM program also like to promote parental involvement in the designing of the JOM program within their respective schools and to become actively involved in the education of their children. The programs also provides in-service training for Indian Education Committees to increase their awareness of their roles and responsibilities.

JOM is also able to sponsor the Creek Nation Challenge Bowl between the schools in the Creek Nation service area that will stimulate interest in tribal affairs and develop healthy competition and provide the mechanism which allows Indian parents and public school administrators to work together when establishing education programs which benefit Indian youth.

The JOM program is happy to support their JOM students in their educational endeavors each year as they try to provide an avenue of financial support. Questions or comments about the JOM program should be directed to the JOM office at 918-732-7843 or 918-732-7839.

Native American Fund Advisors (NAFA) Scholarship

Eufaula - Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is accepting applications for enrollment for the 2007/2008 school term. Eufaula Dormitory is a BIA funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls, 1st through 12th grade. The enrollment date for Middle School and High School students is Tuesday, August 7, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Elementary students will enroll on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Please contact the dormitory as soon as possible for applications as enrollment is limited. Classes

begin on Thursday, August 9, 2007 at the Eufaula Public Schools.

All new students are required to have a CDIB, Social Security card, up-to-date immunization records, birth certificate, physical, report cards and/or transcript from the previous school year. All returning students grades 5-12 will need to have a sports physical if they are planning to participate in sports.

Eufaula Dormitory has implemented five (5) day residential services for our program. Our students are taken to a designated bus stop location in their

area on Friday evening and picked up at the same location on Sunday afternoon/early evening. Eufaula Dormitory offers a structured environment with supplementary services such as tutoring, behavioral and academic counseling, library and computer-learning resource center.

For further information you may write to the following address: Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory, 716 Swadley Drive, Eufaula, OK 74432 or contact the Administration Office at 1-800-896-3181 or 918/689-2522.

Reintegration Program Holds Speak out

The Creek Nation Reintegration Program conducted a speak-out and tour at the John Lilly Correctional Center in Boley Oklahoma with approximately 23 students from the Ryal School District. "One of our goals is to detour and prevent criminal behavior in our schools and communities." The students were

addressed by a panel of inmates who told them their life story and the circumstances on how they ended up in the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Students were given insight on self examination and above all being honest with themselves. The students were given a tour of the facility where they learned first hand

what prison life was about and the desecration it brings with it. It was an informative and eye opening event for everyone. Not only was this an insight into deterring criminal behavior but also a reflection on substance abuse lifestyles. After the tour was complete students were treated to Pizza at the Mazzio's in Okemah.

Eufaula Dorm Now Taking Applications

To provide financial assistance and to identify talented Muscogee (Creek) students interested in the area of business, finance or accounting.

This scholarship was made possible by the generous donation of Native American Fund Advisors (NAFA). NAFA is one of a few Indian owned and operated fee based investment management firms in the United States. NAFA's founders and current owners represent citizenships from the Cherokee, Chickasaw and Muscogee (Creek) Nations.

Located in Tulsa, NAFA offers bond and equity portfolio management for tribal governments, foundations, corporations, trusts, pensions and profit sharing plans, and high net-worth individuals.

Four scholarships for \$1000 each will be awarded to a Muscogee (Creek) student enrolled in undergraduate study. Four (4) Scholarships will be open for Freshmen through Senior year at any two or four-year college/university. The Students must have a major in business, finance or accounting. To be eligible, a

student must remain in full-time status for the entire academic year that the scholarship covers, and maintain a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 Scale.

All applicants must complete the application and supply the appropriate documentation. Incomplete applications and/or applications lacking appropriate support documentation will not be considered. The deadline for application is July 31. For more inform contact Higher Education at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7688.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

JOB TITLE INSTRUCTOR - GAMING

SALARY RANGE: NEGOTIABLE

LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL COLLEGE

JOB DUTIES: Under the direction of the Academic Administrator, the Instructor in Gaming Administration is responsible for teaching college level classes, contributing to the development of curriculum in their field of expertise, working with the Curriculum Specialist for course design syllabi, and lesson plan development. Instructors are expected to follow College of the Muscogee Nation and Regents board level policy. Teach a minimum of 4 courses a semester in the context of curriculum development, the instructor will develop new courses directed toward the degree programs of the College of the Muscogee Nation. Meet with advisees to develop degree plans and monitor their academic progress through out each semester. Be available to students by holding publicly posted office hours. Serve as requested to the department and the college. Instructor must be able to teach on the College of the Muscogee Nation sites in Okmulgee and Tulsa. The instructor must be comfortable in multicultural and Native American classroom settings.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum requirements: An earned masters from an accredited institution with teaching experience. Demonstrated knowledge of the Tribal Gaming industry. Preferred requirements: Terminal degree and evidence of college teaching and advising. Exemplary oral communication, interpersonal and organizational skills. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

***COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION IS REQUIRED**

INDIAN PREFERENCE

CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

JOB TITLE INSTRUCTOR - TRIBAL SERVICES

SALARY RANGE: NEGOTIABLE

LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL COLLEGE

JOB DUTIES: Under the direction of the Academic Administrator, the Instructor in Tribal Services is responsible for teaching college level classes, contributing to the development of curriculum in their field of expertise, working with the Curriculum Specialist for course design, syllabi, and lesson plan development. Instructors are expected to follow College of the Muscogee Nation and Regents board level policy. A full time instructor is expected to teach 12 to 15 hours, or 4 to 5 courses each semester, with teaching loads adjusted for service responsibilities. Instructor must be able to teach on the College of the Muscogee Nation sites in Okmulgee and Tulsa. Instructor must be willing to learn to deliver courses through distributive education. The instructor will be the academic adviser for their degree field, and will be expected to meet with advisees periodically throughout each semester and maintain appropriate records pertaining to their advisees. The instructor must be comfortable in multicultural and Native American classroom settings.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum requirements: An earned masters from an accredited institution with teaching experience. Knowledge of administration within tribal governmental structures. Preferred requirements: Terminal degree and evidence of college teaching and advising. Experience in tribal administrative work places. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

***COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION IS REQUIRED**

INDIAN PREFERENCE

CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

JOB TITLE LIBRARY AND IT RESOURCE SPECIALIST

SALARY RANGE: NEGOTIABLE

LOCATION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL COLLEGE

JOB DUTIES: Under the direction of the Academic Administrator, the Library and IT Resource Specialist will plan, develop, implement and maintain the Learning Resource Center for the College of the Muscogee Nation as well as provide technological support to tribal college staff and faculty. Will plan the development of the college Learning Resource Center including Virtual Library resources for the Tribal College degree program. Will assist the Academic Administrator in developing an online education system and provide support to staff in developing online classes. The person holding this position helps faculty to facilitate e-learning, including design. Will direct and manage the learning resource center including computer lab and student workers. This individual will teach a minimum of one college course per semester at sites in the Muscogee (Creek) nation and be comfortable in multicultural and Native American classroom settings. May be called upon as an academic adviser. Will be expected to follow College of the Muscogee Nation and Regents board level policy.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum requirements: An earned masters from an accredited institution in Library Science or related fields. Minimum two years work experience in the field. Preferred requirements: Terminal degree and evidence of college teaching and advising. Project management work experience in higher education settings. Must possess a valid driver's license. Must submit to and pass all necessary background checks and drug testing.

***COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION IS REQUIRED**

INDIAN PREFERENCE

CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

SEND APPLICATIONS TO: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Personnel Services P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, Fax: (918) 756-2284 sarmour@muscogeenation-nsn.gov www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department
1808 North Miami Okmulgee, OK. 74447 (918) 732-7639 Office (918) 758-0824 Fax

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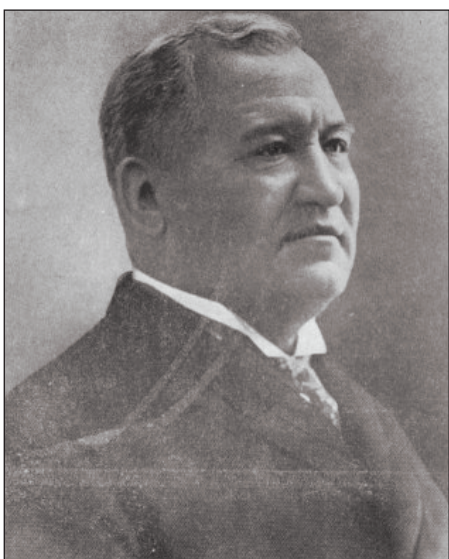
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FEATURES

MVSKOKEHISTORY: Chief Pleasant Porter

Also in 1899 Principal Porter would again run for the office of Chief and this time he would win his election. Knowing that the American government was seeking to do away with tribal sovereignty he brought the Council together at the Okmulgee Courthouse where he delivered a speech on the urgency of accepting allotments and the state of the Nation that he loved. The following is an excerpt from that speech:



Pleasant Porter

“Hav- ing thus briefly called your attention to the conduct of af- fairs of the Nation from the time of my taking office, and other matters and things that have had a bearing upon the administration of those affairs, I now deem it incumbent upon me to offer such advisory suggestions as have in the meantime presented themselves to me. More especially do feel it my duty to do this when I appreciate the fact that I am not permitted to exercise the functions of an executive power except to assent and dissent from the methods proposed and pursued by the departments of the government of the United States in the administration of our affairs.

The effort to recuscitate and re-establish a government administered by ourselves thus far has proved futile, and the outlook is extremely unfavorable to success in ever again recovering even the most limited form of tribal government.

Assuming this to be true, it behooves us to cast about and find what is best for us to do. In determining this question it would be best for us to note the immediate conditions and environments and what is transpiring today. Government over us is administered by the United States; our lands patented to us as a tribe or nation are being allotted to the individual members of the tribe under the authority of a law of Congress. It is true and it is admitted that the title to the lands cannot be segregated without an agreement with us so to do. The lands of the tribe were patented to the nation in fulfillment of treaties mutually agreed upon by and between the United States and the Creek Nation and their partition cannot be lawfully made except by mutual agreement of the contracting parties; therefore a treaty or agreement in this usual manner will be seen to be of the highest importance.

Attention has been called to the fact that more than two-thirds of the Creek people have made selections of allotments of the use of the surface of the land, under the provisions of the Curtis Act and have received certificates from the Dawes Commission for such selections. This conclusively shows that the Creek people have assented to and accepted the allotment and partition of their lands and in so doing it cannot be doubted but that they were guided by the unfailing light of events in advance of any positive agreement—as it were by intuition, grasping the conclusion or end to be reached and acting upon it so far as it is possible for them so to do. And it now only remains for the proper authorities of the nation through the methods required by law, by agreement in the usual form, to arrange definitely the terms and conditions which shall be the rule in the division of our lands and other property.

In the light of the facts above stated, it became your bounden duty to the people you represent to expedite the registering in the form of an agreement the spontaneous act of the people, accepting with supreme trust that which a majority of the people have determined upon and acted upon, with study deliberation, as the will of the people and recognize the principle that law, as a matter of fact, is only the changing will of the people.

The vitality of our race still persists. We have not lived for naught. We are the

original discoverers of this continent and the conquerors of it from the animal kingdom and on it first taught the arts of peace and war and first planted the institutions of virtue, truth and liberty. The European Nations found us here and were made aware that it was possible for men to exist and subsist here. We have given to the European people on this continent, our thought forces. The best blood of our ancestors has been intermingled with the best statesmen and leading citizens. We have made ourselves an indestructable element in their national

history. We have shown that what they believed to be arid and desert places were habitable and capable of sustaining millions of people. We have led the vanguard of civilization in our conflicts with them for tribal existence from ocean to ocean. The race that has rendered this service to the other races of mankind cannot perish utterly.

Though our tribal organization is fading away, we will be transformed as a potent factor, an element within the body of Christian civilization The philosophy of history of the future shall trace many principles of governments and institutions so dear to them, to those found among us.

Trusting that you will appreciate and fulfill the demands and obligations placed upon you by civilization and your people and that you will perform the duties now incumbent upon you as legislators and that harmony and goodwill will characterize your deliberations, let us commit ourselves unto Almighty God and implore His divine guidance and with unmovable faith and courage enter upon the work wherein Christian civilization warrants us the right of way.”

This speech prompted the creation of a commission with Chief Porter at it's head that set forth a plan for the Muscogee Nation known as the Original Creek Treaty. The treaty was adopted by Congress on March 1, 1901 and ratified by vote in the Muscogee Nation on May 25, 1901. It was supplemented by an Act of Congress on June 30, 1902 and that was accepted by the Muscogee Nation on July 26, 1902. The two agreements comprised the laws for the allotment of lands.

The allotment proceedings, however were not entirely well received, Chitto Harjo, also known as Crazy Snake began an independent government based at the Hickory Grounds in October of 1900. A month later, on the second of November Chief Porter asked the United States Government for protection from the “snake” Indians. The American Government sent a troop of Cavalry to assist him and they arrived in January of 01 and succeeded in placing the leaders of the movement under arrest.

In 1903 Porter was reelected and Chief Porter knew that events were pushing toward Oklahoma, and he believed this would be desirable for his people, so in 1905 the various chiefs called a Constitutional Convention meeting in Muskogee. Delegates from each of the tribes were present, as were many people who would later create the Constitution for the state of Oklahoma. The convention elected Chief Porter permanent chairman of the convention, a role which he accepted and performed admirably. The Constitutional Convention would draft a Constitution for the state of Sequoyah, which was adopted by the people in a public vote, and would have become law, if not for the intervention of Congress, who rejected the state.

Chief Porter died on September 3, 1907, just shortly before the state of Oklahoma was formed. While he may never have seen his hard work come to fruition, his importance in the history of the Muscogee Nation, of Oklahoma, and even of the United States of America can not be over stated.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

Hensci. This month marks the one-year anniversary for this column, and the new year in our traditional system. In this year not much has changed: we are still being dragged into a war, by son, by daughter, a war initiated to make a few people rich: rich with money and resources, not rich in songs or wisdom. There's a difference. Walter Mosly, the African-American mystery writer noted that the U.S. is no longer a democratic nation; we have become an oligarchy, a government by the rich for the rich. Sure appears that way. And in a few short years since this government has been dead set (so to speak) on a course of war, this country has lost nearly all credibility with the rest of the world. I experienced it directly in South Africa with a hostile audience when I was introduced as “American”. We are now seen as aggressive, violent, and in control by fundamentalist elements. Funny...isn't that “our” name for “them”?

A few days ago I was up in Hartford, Connecticut for a performance at the General Synod of the United Church of Christ, and had a chance to see Barack Obama and to hear the last 20 minutes of his speech. The packed civic center shined with his presence of wisdom and compassion. “You don't have to be disagreeable to disagree,” is one of the lines I scribbled as I listened. Can you imagine coherent, wise and articulate leadership? Those qualities should be written into the job description. Right now the primary requirements for the office appear to be money and cronies in high places with money.

I had a chance to visit briefly with Creek citizen Rosemary McCombs Maxey in Hartford over dinner. She was busy with workshops and NCC business at the SYNOD Conference. (I've noticed that Rosemary is often involved in community service. The Hawaiians incarcerated in western Oklahoma sure appreciate her visits and assistance.) I asked Rosemary about her chickens and learned about the idiosyncrasies of guinea hens:

“I got home last evening into the mud and mire of our farm. The surviving guinea was happy to chatter at me, talking Creek all the while and eating “last year's” corn.

Guineas and their shenanigans.

Guineas are blackish, gray and white. Because of their body shape, they look like one of the Marx brothers in a tuxedo. When there were two of them the guineas segregated themselves with the black and white speckled chickens (Dominiques) and apart from the White Rock hens and rooster and apart from the Rhode Island Red hens. I hope it is not projection on my part, but I swear, they seemed to target the others by pushing them away from the feed pans and trays. They especially picked on the white rooster and to some extent a multicolored rooster, plucking their tail feathers out. The roosters became bobtailed, so when they try to mate with hens they don't have the balance they need. When

the roosters fall off the hen, then the guinea run to them and peck them adding insult to injury.

The fowl sleep in a little cabin and up on roosts. The guinea roost with their friends the Dominiques. In the morning when I go out to feed them, they fly down off the roost into the yard. Usually they have a very smooth landing, but one morning, one of the guinea misjudged her landing and crashed into the water trough and got herself soaked. She looked somewhat embarrassed but also disgusted as she shook herself off and went behind her house to regain her composure.

One bright sunny morning last year, the guinea were strutting in the yard making their noises when overhead a mockingbird was going through her tunes. She mocked the guinea. They looked up at her in utter disgust and ducked their heads and went inside their house.

The guinea are independent fowl and don't like to be touched. Chickens will cozy-up. But one day they got out and the dogs chased them into some cedar trees. I was out yelling at the dogs and trying to get to the guinea. One of them sailed to my feet and I picked her up. The other too. I carried them back to safety, but they never said “thanks.” They just went inside their little cabin. They are wonderful noise-makers when strange things are going on. They eat ticks, I'm told. I can't bring myself to kill and eat them like my forebears did.

Those are my barnyard stories for today.”

Mvto, Rosemary!

Other issues have remained the same or have slid down farther on the Index of Fast and Questionable Change. We're still piling up paper diapers, Styrofoam and other packaging trash. And we're raising our children by television and computers. The predicted meltdown of the earth is on track for in or around 2010, according to those who are paying close attention to the signs of alarming earthly change. The popular term for the shift or meltdown is: ‘global warming’. That term addresses only one aspect of the process. And here the naming distances the truth. We aren't a “globe”; we're a breathing being. We are, each of us: animal, plant, mineral, elements and all particulars of life here, are part of one system.

We still eat too much grease. We could find other uses for it. In fact, grease could be the next economic opportunity for the Nation. We could sell all the used grease, gather it up from all the restaurants, schools, other institutions, the extra from each of the coffee cans filled with bacon and sausage grease sitting on our stoves. Yes, it's true. We can use that grease to fuel our cars and trucks. (I saw it on television, with the kids.) It is relatively easy to reconfigure your car, using the existing gasoline motor, to run from grease. One such refitted car is traveling about the country to tout this economical answer to petroleum. Their exhaust trail smells like

Chinese take-out, fish fry, or fried chicken, depending on the source for fuel that day. Industrial-sized bottles of cooking oil can be stored in the back of the car if used grease isn't available. Makes sense to me. Only thing is, the fumes might stir your hunger, and you'll have to stop and have a bit to eat, a little more grease.

I took a look at our Nation's Stubborn Index. Yes, way up from last year to this one. The stalemate between some members of our National Council and common sense is responsible for most of the steep rise. Stubbornness as determination can be useful. Sometimes it's hard to know the difference. One makes an impossible rut in the road and no one can get through. The other will get you where you going and might inspire others to do the same. Determination helped us survive the trail, got us through years of struggle with all those threats to our survival: the Dawes Commission, oil companies...you know the rest.

The Jealousy Index has skyrocketed since last year at a steady, nasty rate. We send it to each other, to anyone who raises their hand to help, speaks up, gets their picture in the paper, has something to add... It hobbles the Nation. And not just our people, it's endemic in Indian Country. The most egregious attacks are from those closest to us, from within our own communities. The Jealousy Index in Indian Country is consistently over the top. The other side of jealousy might be celebration. Instead of stewing in a putrid green mess, try sending out some balloons, some banana bread, or a little sour sofkey. You might get some help for your own direction. See what happens. Someone else's accomplishments help clear the road for others, for even you.

And despite what anyone might think, it's still hard to make a living as an artist. Lesego Rampolokeng, a South African poet can attest to the difficulties, even in his country. He told me the story of how a landowner was having trouble with baboons. They can be quite cantankerous, stubborn, even vicious. The landowner wanted them off his property. They were obnoxious, had cleared his garden, broken into his shed, his pantry. He'd tried everything, from Acme Baboon Traps to sending in female baboons in red high heels. Nothing worked. One day a man walked up and said he could get rid of the baboons.

“Go ahead, you can try, like all the rest”, said the harried landowner. “But I won't pay you until they're gone.”

“Fair enough.”

The landowner watched the man walk out to the back of the property. As the landowner watched, he saw the baboons laugh uproariously. Then they cried. And then they took off, running out into the bush.

“How did you do that?” Asked the amazed landowner, as he pulled out his wallet.

“First I told them that I was a poet. Then I told them how much money I made as a poet...Then I told them I was going to read them a poem.”

Of course there will always be change. All we can do is keep integrity about ourselves, and a sense of humor. Speaking of, I really enjoyed hanging out with Teresa Riley in Tucson. She said to remind you all that she's Vincent's sister.

And, before I forget, Cheryl Sanders is looking for a pattern for a Creek dress. “Well, I'm still searching for a pattern. You may put the request in your column next month. Ksvkne@yahoo.com is looking for her dress! Ha! “

Until next time.

LANGUAGE

Language Preservation Manager



Norma Marshall
The year has come to the halfway mark; July is here and MESKE is truly here. the MVSKOKE Language Program

has submitted a recipe book in order that some of our recipes may be shared with citizens of Muscogee Nation and friends of the Muscogee Nation. Megan Morre developed a MVSKOKE coloring book and the Summer youth workers colored the pages for animation. The MCN summer youth workers have been a tremendous asset to the program. The Summer YOUTH workers are: Megan Moore, Jolie Barnett, Alsie Harley, and Tumissah Lindsey. These young women helped to compile the books; they have also learned much about the MVSKOKE language.

I am transferring to the College of the Muscogee Nation as Instructor of Muscogee Language Studies as of July 9,

2007. I have truly enjoyed the work as manager of the MVSKOKE Language Program. I would like to personally thank each person who has helped teh program and me during the time I have been with the program. MVTO!

The past two years have been interesting; the program has endured the growing pains and promoted the MVSKOKE language on a national level as well as local level with the Mvskoke people. I encourage each one of you to continue supporting the program and to continue teaching and learning the MVSKOKE Language.

With much love and prayers.
Norma Marshall

MVSKOKE CHURCH GROUNDS *BY NJM*

Mvskoke Churches have a unique protocol. Upon arrival at the church ground, one is greeted by one of the deacons. He is usually observant and greets the guests promptly. He will escort visitors to the church building if services are being conducted or to the camp houses if meals are being served. The head deacon works closely with the pastor of the church. If issues arise within the church ground, the head deacon will counsel with the persons involved. He will present the matter to the pastor. If the situation merits further review, the pastor will bring the matter before the church body. Most of the time, private counsel settles the matter.

If church services are being conducted, anyone who needs to speak to the pastor should address the matter to the head deacon first. In the event of an emergency, the head deacon will notify the pastor. The services are not interrupted unless it is necessary. The pastor of the church will announce to the congregation or the individual to contact.

When the deacon blows the horn for the gathering of the congregation, one must stop and observe in silence. Conversation ceases and one must consider the four long blasts as signifying the call from the four corners of the earth. The first blowing of the horn is for the people to get ready. The second time that the deacon blows the horn with four long blasts indicates that service begins. The pastor and the congregation begin singing MVSKOKE Hymns. After singing, prayer is offered as invocation. The pastor usually preaches in the MVSKOKE Language. He extends an invitation, and the deacon prepares the mercy seat. If one should go forward to the mercy seat, the pastor hears what is on that person's heart. If the individual rededicates his/her life to the Lord, then the pastor notes the action to the congregation and everyone offers the hand of fellowship. More MVSKOKE Hymns are sung. At the closing of the service, prayer is offered as benediction.

After the morning service, the deacons will ring the dinner bell to get ready. The second time the deacons ring the bell, dinner is served in the camp houses. Each guest is given the opportunity to pronounce blessing upon the meal. MVSKOKE food is generally served along with plenty of standard fare. However, the MVSKOKE food is the best and it is delicious!

During the afternoon, there will be more preaching and singing. Our people stay and have service all afternoon. On Communion Sunday, the observance usually takes place towards the evening. Deacons will serve the congregation unleavened bread and grape juice symbolizing the body and the blood of Jesus Christ. At the conclusion of the Lord's Supper, the pastor will ask the congregation to assemble outside if weather permits. Everyone forms a circle. Someone starts a MVSKOKE Hymn and the right hand of fellowship begins. The pastor begins the procession. Some offer



words of encouragement. At the end of the handshaking, all are called closer together and prayer is offered for a safe journey—physically and spiritually.

Children wait until the service has ended. Then the deacons serve the children the remainder of the bread and grape juice. The children love it! I have always remembered with fondness the times I was in the children's line.

The unleavened bread is prepared by one of the women's leaders of the church. Before daylight, she has arisen while others are sleeping to begin preparation for the Communion. She starts with prayer and makes preparation for the unleavened bread. The sister mixes flour without additives—no salt or baking powder or anything else—and water. She uses three fingers—signifying the Heavenly Father God our Creator, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit—to mix the flour and water to consistency. She gently pats the dough into flattened pieces. The bread is not cut with cutlery; it will be broken off by the hand of the minister who is officiating for the Communion. She takes the Sacred Elements into the Church as she is praying. She offers prayer unto the Lord.

The MVSKOKE people are very re-

spectful of symbolic acts of faith. Observance of Communion and water baptism makes two important aspects uniquely and purely MVSKOKE. The water baptism is generally conducted beside streams, creeks, or ponds. The minister and one of the deacons assist the baptism candidate into the water. The minister will pronounce the person in this manner, "I baptize you, _____, in the name of the Father, son, and Holy Ghost." The congregation sings MVSKOKE Hymns as the baptismal service continues. If the weather is cold, someone builds a fire nearby. The women hold quilts together so that a woman may change clothing. The men hold quilts together so that a man may change clothing. The entire procession returns to the church and everyone extends the right hand of fellowship.

The church and all sister churches continuously visit each other for support and fellowship. Sometimes one of the churches will host an all-night service, such as prayer service for the soldiers fighting overseas, and New Year's Eve Service—to pray in the new year. All-night singing services are expected and encouraged; most churches take turns hosting all-night services.

The funeral service is another unique aspect of the MVSKOKE churches. We still sit up throughout the night with the family. In earlier times, singing and preaching were ongoing all night. However, times have changed and most people stay until midnight. Most recently, it seems to be just the family and a few close family friends. The grave is not excavated until daybreak. One of the camp houses prepares breakfast for the workers who will excavate. Morning prayer and a MVSKOKE Hymn begin the day. The body is not left alone until burial; someone remains with the body at all times. The church serves the noon meal for the family, relatives, and friends. The memorial service usually begins at 2:00 p.m. The family and friends proceed to the burial site and remain in service. The final handshake—everyone picks up a handful of dirt and tosses the dirt over the vault—concludes the burial ceremony. The minister pronounces the benediction and dismisses the congregation. The church serves the evening meal for the family.

The MVSKOKE way is wonderful in the gentle and humble manner in which we take care of our own people. We extend that same courtesy to all that we encounter. MVTO

SOMETHINGMVSKOKE

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE BODY PARTS WORD SEARCH
CIRCLE OR MARK THE MVSKOKE (CREEK) WORDS

N	O	K	W	V	H
A	E	K	V	Y	V
C	R	M	N	U	C
O	L	E	I	P	K
K	T	L	A	O	O
W	E	L	K	R	C
V	P	E	M	L	E
S	V	K	P	V	K
N	V	R	K	E	N
T	U	R	W	V	E

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| 1. EKV | HEAD |
| 2. TURWV | EYE |
| 3. YUPO | NOSE |
| 4. HVCKO | EAR |
| 5. COKWV | MOUTH |
| 6. NOKWV | NECK |
| 7. ENKE | HAND |
| 8. NVRKE | STOMACH |
| 9. ELLE | FEET |
| 10. SVKPV | ARM |

MVSKOKE CULTURAL FOOD RECIPES

VHVCVMPV TAKLIKE(sweet potato bread)
Scrape or peel about four (4) medium sweet potatoes. Grate and add ¾ cup of sugar and ½ teaspoon of cinnamon. Mix together and form patties; place in slightly greased pan and bake in oven at 375 degrees for thirty (30) minutes.

Variation:
Wash and peel five (5) sweet potatoes; boil in water until tender. Mash and add enough flour to adhesive to form patties. Add two (2) tablespoons of shortening, two (2) Tablespoons of sugar, and a pinch of cinnamon or other spices. Bake in oven at 375 degrees until done.

Vhvcvmpv semeteke(Fay Baker's famous sweet potato pie)
Wash and peel two(2) large sweet potatoes. Boil in water until tender. Mash and add three (3) cups of sugar,1/2 stick of butter, six(6) eggs, two (2) teaspoons of cinnamon, two (2) teaspoons of allspice, and two (2) teaspoons of vanilla. Mix together and pour into a pie shell. Bake until firm in oven at 375 degrees. Serve on a cold winter's day and serve at Christmas.)

Sukhvpeswv/ecko(Koko Lowe's Corn Soup with Pork)
1 box of Cope's Dried Corn
1 pkg of boneless pork ribs
1 tsp of salt
1tsp of pepper
½ cup of sugar
½ cup of butter

Soak corn for one (1) hour. Drain water from corn. Put all ingredients in large pit. Cook for approximately three (3) hours. Stir occasionally. This is delicious with fry bread.

Sukhv'peswv afke(Gracine Hick's Pork and Hominy)
1 pkg of pork stew meat, 4 cans of hominy, and salt(season to taste). Cook meat until well done. Add hominy. Bring to a boil; let cook until meat is tender. Then it is time to chow down.

Taklik' Tokse (Millie Colbert's Sour Cornbread)
Cook about one(1) cup of rice. Place cooked rice and plain white cornmeal together in a large crock pot. Add cold water and mix well—do not add to much water. Add one(1) Tablespoon of sugar and mix well with rice and cornmeal. Let this sit for three (3)days. (Do not stir at any time) When mix is ready to bake, add three(3) cups of flour, two (2) Tablespoons of baking powder, approximately two (2) Tablespoons of sugar, and one (1) Tablespoon of grease. Mix completely and get ready to bake in the oven. Have a cast iron skillet with at least three(3) tablespoons of grease. Add about four (4) cups of sour bread mix in the skillet; bake at 400 degrees. When bread is browning all around, take out and place on the bottom of the stove to brown the top of the sour bread.(Before browning, add a little grease on top of sour bread and have it ready to brown the top.) Check closely; when the top of the sourbread is brown, remove from the bottom of the stove and set it on top of stove. Remove from the skillet and place on plate. When it is ready to eat, slice the sourbread.

This Calendar shows the days that the MVSKOKE Language Program has their community classes for the month of July.						
HIYUCE - Little Harvest Month- JULY						
Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3 Twin Hills	4	5 Coweta	6	7
8	9	10 Wetumka	11	12 Okemah	13	14
15	16	17 Twin Hills	18	19 Coweta	20	21
22	23	24 Wetumka	25	26 Okemah	27	28
29	30	31				

RELIGION

Women of Destiny and Native American Women



Photo submitted

Pictured above from left to right are the Sapulpa Women of Destiny: Sarai Miller, Kathie Eldred, Betty Pulver, Diane Van Antwerp, Patricia Kaseca, Edith Weaver, Ella Jackson, Linda Massingale. Seated are Linda Newton and Annette Webb.

SAPULPA — It has been nearly a year since the first Women of Destiny meeting convened in November 2006, at Sapulpa. A group of 44 women came together at the Creek Nation Community Center for a day of fun and fellowship, gifts and food. With a planning team of three ministries: Betty Pulver of Covenant Harvest Ministries in Sapulpa, Edith Weaver of Chosen Women Ministries in Tulsa, and Patricia Kaseca of Global

Dominion Equipping Centre (GDEC) in Tulsa, working together to bring an international vision to Native women desiring to fulfill their God-given destinies and purposes in life became the central focus of this initial meeting. This first-ever meeting ignited a passion for Esther 4:14, which states: "Thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this."

Since November 2006, the Women of Destiny vision has touched

the lives of nearly 200 women. IN February 2007, a Muskogee team led by Beverly Adair hosted a meeting whose theme was "The Greatest Gift." In May 2007, Brenda Coachmen of Claremore gathered a group of volunteers and presented an "All Women are Special" meeting.

Then, just before the Muskogee meeting Ms. Edith Weaver of Chosen Women Ministries in Tulsa had a vision from the Lord for "such a time as this." She envisioned a torch being carried from place to place as in an Olympic runner carrying the flame and passing it from one woman to the next woman that would host a Women of Destiny meeting. Out of Ms. Weaver's vision, Linda Newton of GDEC designed a red hand-held torch with a gold inscription "Women of Destiny" encircling the lamp. A lighting-of-the-torch ceremony followed, and Brenda Coachmen of Claremore, being Holy Spirited-led, received the torch for her. A prophetic word released by Peggy Seals, GDEC Missions Leader, exhorted the women from Claremore to prayerfully seek God for the women who would come to this meeting and for their own individual destinies. Ms. Seals, and Mrs. Diane Van Antwerp have both prophesied over previous Women of Destiny meetings.

Next an "All Women are Special" meeting was held on May 12,

2007. Mrs. Sue-Ellen Berghan, one of the guest speakers, shared how her vision for the Aboriginal women in Australia was realized in 2002. Sue-Ellen stated, "God placed it on American missionary family's heart, while living in Australia to adopt me. Ray and Peggy Seals became my parents when I was young Aboriginal girl growing up on the mission. The Mission is similar to your Reservation lands in your country. I never knew that God could use them to fulfill my own destiny in Australia and now in America."

Sue-Ellen also stated, "I'm standing here today with you because of destiny and the call of God on my life! When the Women of Destiny vision was released in my country, mum and dad Seals brought ministry team with them called the Reconciliation Team in October 2004. One of those members was a Native American woman, Patricia Kaseca of the Muskogee Creek and Cherokee tribes. Pat caught the vision for the Aboriginal women in Australia and brought it back to the Native American women in her own country. This was her destiny! See how God can do anything in your life if we, as women, are hungry enough to go after our purpose and vision!"

Then Sue-Ellen also started that meeting the Native American women in Claremore and Sapulpa was the

highlight of her visit to America. She was a guest speaker at Covenant Harvest Ministries on May 24, 2007. She also presented gifts from her country to Pastor Allan and Betty Pulver and received a Muskogee Nation flag from the second chief, Alfred Berryhill.

Betty Pulver will also host a Women of Destiny meeting on Saturday, November 3, 2007. The website at Global Dominion Equipping centre at www.gdecentre.org will soon have information about the Women of Destiny meetings.

Marshall Reunion

The 19th anniversary of Louis and Many Marshall reunion will be held September 15, 2007 at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church 1 mile south -1 mile east on Highway 75 in Wetumka.

We would appreciate anyone related to the Marshall family to come and join us for day of fun, fellowship, and have a great feast. Families are asked to bring a covered disk, a door prize and an unwrapped gift to the auction that day.

For more information on menus and games, contact Betty Scott at: (918)-623-7356 or Salem Yargee at: 405-452-5092

Hope to see you there.

Australian Minister Visits Muskogee Community

SAPULPA — Pastor Allan and Betty Pulver of Covenant Harvest Ministries in Sapulpa welcomed invited speaker Sue-Ellen Berghan to their Thursday evening services on May 24, 2007. Sue-Ellen is a descendant of the Kamilaroi, and her husband Miles is a Maori descendant from New Zealand. They minister to the Aboriginal people Moree, NSW, AUSTRALIA.

The congregation of covenant Harvest was honored to receive the handcrafted gifts made by the Kamilaroi in Moree. These gifts presented by Ms. Berghan to the Pulvers and

congregation included hand painted wooden clap sticks now used in praise and worship, and a traditional Emu caller, which was given to the Pulvers. A wooden bowl decorated in Aboriginal design was Presented to Mrs. Helen Coon.

Another Honored guest, Second Chief of the Muskogee (Creek) nation Alfred Berryhill presented Ms. Berghan with the Muskogee flag to the Aboriginal people of Australia. Eugene Jack, a local tribal artisan presented a handcrafted matah, similar to a staff. Atop the matah was an American eagle, symbolizing our

nation's freedom, as well as having cultural relevance among the Native American people. The exchange of gifts represents a covenantal act of friendship, love, respect, and honor between the Native American people and the Aboriginal people of Australia.

The Muskogee flag is the first Native American nation received by the Aboriginal people in moree, NSW, AUSTRALIA.



Photo submitted

Pictured above are Mrs. Helen Coon and Mrs. Peggy Seals. These two ladies attended Covenant Harvest Ministries in Sapulpa on May 24, 2007 and welcome Sue-Ellen Berghan, a Kamilaroi Minister from Australia.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Hayden Zachariah Anderson

OKMULGEE — Hayden Zachariah Anderson aka “Cvmbe” was born November 21, 2006, he weighed 6 lbs. and 11 oz. .

He is the son of Dr. Zachariah Anderson and Terrie Anderson. He was one of the first water birth deliveries at the Okmulgee Birthing Center.

He has four older brothers: Austin, Nathan, Isaiah, and Tarin. He is a member of the Wind Clan.

His grandparents are Harry and Augusta Anderson of Holdenville and Mike Endres and Barbara Lane of Morris.



Tayah Renee Deer

OKMULGEE — Tayah Renee Deer was born at Southcrest Hospital on March 29. She weighed 7lbs. 15oz. and was 19 in in length.

Parents are Sarah Jean Micco and Gerald Deer both of Okmulgee.

Her siblings are Chandlynn, age 6, Trystin, age 3, and Losanna, age 1.

Maternal grandparents are Teresa Bible of Glenpool and the late Hempsey Wayne Micco of Weleetka.

Paternal grandparents: Teresa Deer of Okmulgee and Grayling Johnson of Tecumseh.

Maternal great grandparents are Norma Jean Bible of Okmulgee and the late Burtis Wilmot Bible.

Paternal great grandmother: Linda Leyva of Okmulgee.



Hunter David Wayne Wixson

OKMULGEE — Austin & Caden Wixson are proud to announce the birth of their brother Hunter David Wayne Wixson.

He was born April 24, 2007 at St. John’s Medical Center in Tulsa. He weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 20 inches in length.

He is Creek and Mississippi Choctaw and the son of the Beaver Clan, and belongs to Tallahassee Wykokaye Ceremonial Ground.

Parents are Rhiannon Bell of Okmulgee, OK & Seth Wixson of Tulsa, OK

Maternal Grandparents are Roger & Marcie Bell of Okmulgee

Paternal Grandparents are Marie Wixson of Oklahoma City and Phil Wixson of Okmulgee.



Preston Van Powell

OKMULGEE — Preston was born at the Southcrest in Tulsa on May 31.

He weighed 6lbs and 12 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Parents are Valerie and Vernon Powell of Okmulgee.

Maternal grandparents are Darlene and Ken Taryole of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Rick and Leslie Powell of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents are the late John and the late Nancy Frank of Cromwell and the late Ben and the late Sophia Taryole of Okemah.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Bessie and the late Lax Johnson of Tulsa.

Preston is of the Tiger Clan and belongs to the Thloplocco Tribal Town.

BIRTHDAYS

Tyler Clark

OKMULGEE — Tyler celebrated his birthday on May 14, 2007 at home with family and friends in Okmulgee.

Parents are Scott and Cindy Smith of Okmulgee. Maternal Grandparents are Linda Cusher of Okmulgee and Corneal Cusher of Smithville, Ok.

Paternal Grandparents are Keith and Connie Clark of Pryor.



Bre’Onna Marie Gonseth

OWASSO — Bre’Onna Marie Gonseth celebrated her twelfth birthday with family in Owasso on June 28.

She is the daughter of Eric Gonseth of Owasso and Telicia Dixon of Edmond.

Maternal grandparents are Ron and Janet Johnson of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Clarence and Sherryl Gonseth of Okemah.

Paternal great grandparents are the Mae and Ray Holloway of Preston Oklahoma and the late Gerald and Carmaleta Hardin of Okemah.

Great grand parents Florice Thompson and the late Sammy Thompson of Okmulgee, and Doris Johnson and the late Claude Johnson of Tulsa, and the late Freda Shinault of Stillwater and Clarence Shinault of Stillwater.



Kaitlyn Factor

OKEMAH — Kaitlyn Factor celebrated her 10th birthday on June 2nd at Party Palooza in Henryetta.

Her parents are Daniel and Ellie Factor of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are Della Proctor of Okmulgee, Elliot Barnett of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Noah and Lucinda Factor of Okemah.

Maternal great grandparents are late Judy Lasley Proctor of Hanna, the late Austin and Mamie Barnett of Eufala.

Paternal great grandparents are Wilson and Ina Hicks of Okemah.

She attends Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church and is in the 5th Grade at Weleetka Spence Elementary.

She plays fast pitch softball for Okmulgee Magic(Tournament) and Okmulgee Storm(League).



Hope Tuttle

GLENPOOL — Hope celebrated her third birthday at Nana and Papa’s house with family and friends.

Hope is the daughter of Andy Tuttle of Glenpool and Melissa Tuttle of Joplin.

Paternal grandparents are Joe and Carrol Tuttle of Sapulpa.

Maternal grandparents are Becky and John Thompson of Tulsa.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Angela Gilbreath, M.S.W.

ST. LOUIS — Angela Gilbreath graduated from George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis with a Master’s degree in Social Work.

Her parenta are Melissa Locust of Fort Gibson and John Turner Scott Jr. of Okmulgee.

She is the granddaughter of billy and Martha Brown of Fort Gibson and the late John Turner Scott, Sr. of Eufaula and the late Susie Perry of Eufaula.

She was awarded Recipient of the Kathryn M. Buder Scholarship for American Indian Students.

She is currently employed as a Consultant with First Nations Development Institute based out of Longmont, Colorado and she also volunteers at the Murrow Indian Children’s Home in Muskogee.



Courtne Bresha Mims

OKLAHOMA CITY — Courtne Bresha Mims graduated from the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, and recieved her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing.

Courtne is the daughter of Tony and Stephanie Mims

She is the granddaughter of Irene Starks, William Mims, Freddie Mae Cooks and John Motte.

Some of her achievements are Presidents and Dean Honor Roll, and Sigma Theta Tau Induction.

She has currently taken a position at the Oklahoma University Science Center in Oklahoma City for the next year in the Neonatal Care Unit.



Tomi Shy’Ane Ryder

OKMULGEE — Tomi Shy’Ane Ryder is a Native American Muscogee (Creek) and the daughter of Tommy and Alice Ryder. Tomi Shy’Ane attends Okmulgee Elementary School, her 4th grade teacher was Mr. Hurst.

She is on the Honor Roll, but this time for strait A’s and she was presented with a metal and certificate for all of her hard work.

Her family is always very proud of her for all of her hard work and achievements.

She was advanced to the 5th grade because of all of her hard work.



Nadia King

TULSA — On May 4, Nadia King a tribal member, won first place in Breaking the Traditions Award for Masonry for the Skills U.S.A. in Tulsa.

She is the daughter of Johnny King of Muskogee and Nadine King of Seminole.

Her grandparents are the Late Otis and Nelsey B. Harjo; and Winey Yargee of Holdenville.

She is currently enrolled at the Gordon Cooper Technology Center in the Mansory Trades.

SPOTLIGHT

Singer pays homage to Creek Ancestor

“ I initially thought of simply researching Native American composers of art songs to present in my oral comprehensive examination as a specialty...I found that there really did not exist a canon of Native American classical song composers.”

OHIO — The work of Muscogee (Creek) artist Alexander Posey has been celebrated in many ways, and with good reason. The remarkable life of this poet, artist, and philosopher is truly a special era in Muscogee (Creek) history.

Posey lived at a time when the evolution of Oklahoma statehood was at a crossroads-especially with the Indian issue. How would the pre-conceived Sooner state deal with the first Americans who already claimed the land as ‘Indian Territory’ and bring them into 20th century as not only full fledged citizens but individual land owners as well. Posey was instrumental in registering tribal citizens for the eventual land allotment and the Dawes commission, something that he believed in at the beginning and felt that was the inevitable opportunity for Creek people, and Indians everywhere to embrace the modern era.

The man who started the first newspaper in Indian Territory soon had a change of heart and mind toward the process of legalized Indian citizenship and the Individual land possessions that each aboriginal person had to face. For Posey, who was highly educated in the ‘white man’s’ world, it was a time of deep soul-searching inwardly and a time for expression outwardly. Especially in the form of poetic literature.

For Posey, the writing sometimes served as a positive outlet for allowing the complex Muscogee artist to escape the inner trappings of duty-both as an individual and the as an Indian.

Alexander Lawrence Posey was born in 1873, and to many people of that time, even today, Posey represented the type of ‘contemporary’ or ‘progressive’ Indian of the twentieth century, one that was defined as leaving behind the ‘old’ or ‘traditional’ was of Creek life. Maybe because of his extensive education. But Posey, although he attended the Creek National School at Eufaula and then spent three years at Bacone Indian University in Muskogee, only learned to speak English at the age of fourteen.

His extensive education allowed him to become introduced to and appreciate the art of literature. His academic upbringing would also bring about statures of leadership as Posey would take the title of Superintendent of the Mvskoke (Creek) school at Okmulgee, Eufaula, and Wetumka as well as a Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Unfortunately, for Posey and the Muscogee (Creek) tribe as a whole, his young life was cut short when at the age of 35, he drowned in the flooding waters of the Canadian river. The year was 1908, only a year into the life of Oklahoma

“...then perhaps I could bring art song and Native American culture together through poetry. It could be a tribute to my heritage...”

statehood. Posey’s life was beginning to change as well as his philosophical viewpoints. What may have come of Posey’s life and his influence in the young state as well as a young modern Muscogee Nation? His influence and character was known to Indian and non. Even the idea of a political leader, state and tribal, was a possibility of what might have been.

The memorable life of an outstanding Muscogee (Creek) citizen has never been forgotten. Posey’s writings, especially in the formats of prose and poetry are forever known. Such writings as Daniel F. Littlefield, Jr.’s autobiography *Alex Posey: Creek Poet, Journalist, and Humorist* are literate proof of what an historical cornerstone to Muscogee (Creek) history Posey was to his tribe.

Now Posey has been remembered in song as well, specifically the opera.

On April 14 of this year, Muscogee (Creek) citizen, Dr., and opera Singer Kirsten C. Kunkle premiered sixteen original compositions based upon the poetry of her ancestor Alexander Posey.

Kunkle commissioned classical art songs to be written for the explicit purpose of premiering the works as part of her doctoral dissertation project in vocal performance at the University of Michigan.

Kunkle admits that the influence of her famous ancestor is due largely in part to the way that she was raised. “I was born in Toledo, Ohio and have one older brother,” says Kunkle. “My mother was of Muscogee descent on her paternal side. My other family heritage consists mostly of

German and Polish descent. My parents were both psychologists, but exposed me at a very young age to any culture that was available. I grew up in Fremont, Ohio, where I am once again residing.”

The beginning of Kunkle’s singing in field Opera was also due to her family up bringing.

“My mother (Toni J. Kunkle) was a ballerina, until she broke her leg in college”, says Kunkle. “My mother was instrumental in guiding me to the arts. From a very early age, she and my father took me art museums, musicals, ballets, as well as sporting events, and other activities to round out my development. I always sang, even as a young child. At the age of twelve, after doing much performing, we decided that I should go to a voice teacher for lessons. I found a wonderful teacher, Barbara Kondalski, in Toledo, Ohio. I loved the idea of opera, because it was considered the most difficult of the vocal art forms. I have always loved a challenge. So, opera was it for me! I had heard a few operas and performed in my first one in the chorus of “Tosca” at Opera Lenawee the same year that I started voice lessons. I loved it, and I haven’t stopped pursuing opera since then. Throughout my youth, I performed in one musical theater production after another. I did things like singing the National Anthem for the Toledo Mudhens baseball games. I also got a church job toward the end of high school involving my singing with the choir and often soloing, where I have continued to sing. I obtained my bachelors degree in vocal performance, with minors in Italian and German, from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. While there, I studied with Virginia Starr and part time with Dr.. Barbara Lockard-Zimmerman. I also went for a year abroad to Salzburg, Austria before graduating. I studied voice there and sang in collaboration with Mozarteum Konzertfach instructor Stan Ford. I received much performing experience with the Toledo Opera when I was pursuing my undergraduate studies, as well as with the Bowling Green Opera Theater program.”

Education has always been important to the Kirsten’s family and with that in mind, Kunkle continued to pursue the arts and advance in the academic field.

“For my masters and doctoral degrees, I went to the University of Michigan. There I was able to also get involved with the Comic Opera Guild of Ann Arbor, Michigan Opera Theater, and Rackham Symphony Choir as a soloist. My most recent teacher was Rico Serbo, who has helped me in every way, especially with his support for the Posey Project.”

But what got Kunkle actually motivated to remember an historical tribal figure in the field of Opera?

“As part of my dissertation requirements at the University of Michigan, I had to have a very complete repertoire list of classical art song and opera,” says Kunkle. “One of our categories at UM is American art song, with the inclusion of a song by an African American composer. I noticed that no other minorities were represented anywhere on the list, whether it be women composers, Native Americans, Asians; The list goes on and on. I initially thought of simply researching Native American composers of art songs to present in my oral comprehensive examination as a specialty. After some research, including contacting music specialist Richard LeSeuer , I found that there really did not exist a canon of Native American classical song composers. I knew from my Victor Herbert performance experiences that Native American themes had been used in vocal scores, but most of them tended to be stereotypical drum beats or flute themes. I was not overwhelmingly interested in that particular aspect. As I was driving to Ohio from Ann Arbor one day, the idea literally just came to me for the Alex Posey Project. I was always taught that Posey was my most famous relative, and a very distinguished poet at that. I had not read many of Posey’s works, but I knew that my father owned copies of “The Fus Fixico Letters,” a collection of Posey’s poetry, and Professor Daniel Littlefield’s biography of Posey. I had thought that if no Native American composers of art song were really known (or for that matter existed at all), then perhaps I could bring art song and Native American culture together through poetry. It could be a tribute to my heritage, my art, and my family, particularly my mother, who had passed away January 2, 2006

I grew up absolutely loving musical theatre and sang it throughout my youth with my mother (Toni J. Kunkle) accompanying me

at the piano. I have spent a great deal of time recording turn of the 20th century operetta, particularly works by Victor Herbert, with the Comic Opera Guild of Ann Arbor, Michigan. I also love to sing jazz, and often use to sing with my brother (Zachary Kunkle) at the double bass and my mother at piano, as the Kunkle Trio.

Most pieces were written for piano and voice, with the exceptions being Kunkle’s own composition ‘*Hotgun on the Death of Yadeka Harjo*,’ which featured double bass in addition to the two previously mentioned instruments and Mlynek’s *Mount Shasta*, which featured

requirements for a Doctorate of Voice Performance in May 2007. Kunkle’s goal with this project was to close the gap between the Native American culture and Classical Western Vocal Art Music. For assistance in this project, Kunkle contacted Posey’s biographer Daniel Littlefield, Jr., Muscogee Archives Staff Members Joy Bear and Norma Marshall, and University of Nebraska Press Staff Member Elaine Maruh, as well as many others. Kunkle would like to publicly thank Muscogee Medicine Man David Lewis for his support in this project, as well as for his continued promotion of Muscogee affairs.



double bass in addition to the two previously mentioned instruments and Mlynek’s *Mount Shasta*, which was composed for classical guitar and voice.

Some other songs that Kunkle has created from Posey’s poetry include: *Nature’s Blessings & A Vision, A Glimpse of Spring, Mother’s Song, Pity, Brook Song & On the Capture and Imprisonment of Crazy Snake, Songs of Life and Time*.

Kirsten C. Kunkle completed her degree

Dr.. Kunkle is the daughter of Dr. Toni J. (Rowley) Kunkle, granddaughter of Richard Rowley, great-granddaughter of Eloise (Posey) Rowley , and great-great-granddaughter of Frank and Emma (Mingo) Posey. Alexander Posey was Frank Posey’s brother.

Anyone interested in a copy of the CD should contact Dr.. Kunkle through the following addresses- 535 S. Park Avenue, Fremont, OH 43420. Phone -(419) 332-7739 or at divavoce@aol.com

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OBITUARIES

SHANE BRANSON

WILSON — Funeral services for Shane Allen Branson were held on May 31, 2007 at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home with Pastor Jack Vance officiating and special Creek songs by Rusty Powell.

Shane was born in Tulsa on January 13, 2007 to Gene Allen and Jessica “Cali” (Woodruff) Branson.

Shane was baptized at St. John’s Hospital January 24, 2007 and transferred to Nebraska Medical Center on March 5, 2007.

Shane was survived by his parents; two sisters: Kailee Jade and Broke Lynn Branson; grandparents Gene Branson of Wilson, Harvey and Carolyn Torix of Okmulgee, Raymond (Bo) Woodruff of Dustin, Marty and Debbie Van Ryan of Fresno, CA.; Great grandparents Dorothy Cox of Okmulgee, Sam and Charlene Trulove of Dustin, Jewel and Judy Overstreet of Eldorado, AR., Joyce and Darrell Watkins of Fresno, CA., Karl and Terry Van Ryan of Fresno, CA.; Paternal aunts: Johnnie Branson of Okmulgee, Kathy Buller of Bixby, Shelly Ladden of McComb, MS.; uncle Aaron Torix of Eldorado, KS.; Godfather Shane Bodey of Elk City.

Honorary Pallbearers are Shane Bodey, Matt Guines, great-uncle Rufus (Buddy) Cox, Jr..

Interment was at the Wilson Cemetery.

WILLIE CHUPCO

HOLDENVILLE — Willie Duane Chupco passed from this life at the age of 50 years on Wednesday, June 13, in Holdenville, Oklahoma.

Willie was the son of Louie Chupco and Molly Brown. He was born on February 21, 1957, in Talihina, Oklahoma. He was brought up north of Holdenville an attended Holdenville Schools. He was actively involved in the Holdenville FFA, and enjoyed showing calves. He graduated from Holdenville High School in 1975.

Willie worked for several years at Big Yank garment factory in Wewoka. He had worked the past 13 years for Tyson Foods in Holdenville, and attended Wes Watkins Area Vo-Tech School on Wetumka.

He was a member of the Salt Creek United Methodist Church, and he loved going to church. He loved to fish and he loved to play the guitar. He loved his family most of all, and leaves them with countless precious memories to treasure.

Willie is preceded in death by his father, Louie Chupco, his Aunt Josephine Brown, his Uncle Buster Brown, and his Grandmother Polly Brown.

He is survived by his daughter, Melinda Chupco, and his mother, Molly Brown, both of the home; three aunts: Ruth Brown of Oklahoma City, and Wisey Brown and Tootsie Brown, of the home; one uncle ,Larry Brown of Holdenville; the mother of his child, Sissie Kay Buck of Holdenville; numerous other relatives. and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, June 16, 2007, 2 p.m. at Salt Creek United Methodist Church north of Holdenville, and Wille was laid to rest in the Brown Family Cemetery. Rev. David Dunson and Rev. Frank Moppin were the officiating ministers. Pallbearers were Scott Babb, Darrell Byerly, Joe Tiger, Paul Fixico, Jimmy Taylor and Nathan Long. Honorary pallbearers were Kenny Brown, Junior McGeeley, Allen Yargee and Doug Scott.

Services were under direction of Fisher Funeral Home of Holdenville.

WANDA JO BOOHER

HOLDENVILLE — Wanda Jo Booher of Holdenville passed away Friday, June 8, 2007 at Carl Alberts Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma at the age of 74. She was born in Holdenville, Oklahoma to John Thomas and Margaret Ruth O’Brien Stubblefield on September 12, 1932. She was raised in the Holdenville area and attended school at Hulsey, Holdenville, and Moss. She graduated from Moss High school in 1950. She moved to Ada, Oklahoma after high school and worked for Southwestern Bell for many years. She was married to Ronald D. Davenport on December 9, 1964.

Wanda later moved to Okla-

homa City where she worked for Fred Jones Ford for several years. She met C. Frank Booher while she was working there. They were married in Nashville on June 23, 1977 and lived there for about two years. They later moved back to Midwest City and then Choctaw. She worked for OU Health and Science Center with the Grants and Contracts Administration, before retiring and moving back to Holdenville in 1996. She had been a member of the Mid West Boulevard Christian Church and at the time of her death, was a member of the First Christian Church of Holdenville. Wanda enjoyed quilting, sewing, needlework, gardening, dancing, watching movies, and taking care of others.

She was preceded in her death by her husband, Frank, her parents, John and Margaret Stubblefield, one brother, Thomas Edwin Stubblefield, one sister, Patricia Ruth Stubblefield Adair; and a brother-in-law, Bill Cockran.

Survivors Include

Her Sister: Betty Cockran of Yeager, OK A sister-in-law: L.E. “Boots” Stubblefield of Norman Two Step- Children: Glen Booher and his wife, Diana of Oklahoma City, Diana Spencer and her husband, Larry, of Norman, Nieces and Nephews: Tommy and Paula Stubblefield of Clearlake, TX, Joe and Terri Stubblefield of Norman, Steve and Linda Bridges of Yeager, Mike Bridges of Ada, Patty and Bud Bowman of Holdenville, Pam and Gary Foster of Broken Arrow, Lani Radke of Holdenville, Five Grandchildren: Anita Strickler of Oceanside, CA, Audra Spencer of Oklahoma City, Emily Booher of Norman, Whitney, Booher of Norman and Jeffrey Booher of Oklahoma City and numerous great nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services will be 2:00 p.m. Monday, June 11, 2007 at the First Christian Church in Holdenville with Rev. Jon Ewers and Pastor Mike McCauley officiating. Interment will be in the Holdenville Cemetery under the direction of Hudson-Phillips Funeral Home.

ANITA ALEXANDER

TULSA — Mrs. Anita Kay Alexander, 62, a resident of Tulsa and past resident of Beggs, died on Tulsa on Saturday, June 23 2007.

Graveside services will be on Friday, June 29, 2007 at 11 a.m. at the Adams 2 Cemetery near Beggs. Visitation will be on Thursday, 4 p.m. until 8 p.m.. At the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home in Beggs.

JOE MARTIN

HOLDENVILLE — Joe Martin passed away at his home in Holdenville on Thursday, May 31,2007, at the age of sixty-six years.

Joe was the son of Henry & Yanna (McGeeley) Martin. He was born on April 3,1941, in Holdenville, Oklahoma where he was brought up and attended school. He worked with his dad in construction for several years, then joined the U.S. Army. Following military service he returned to construction work mostly in the Oklahoma City area, and lived in Oklahoma City until 1982, then returned to Holdenville, his home for the past twenty-five years.

Joe worked as an auto mechanic in Holdenville, and loved being in the company of other people; what he enjoyed most in life was visiting with his family, friend and neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie (Henneha) Martin in September of 1996, and by his parents, Henry & Yannah Martin. He survived by four children; Ted Martin and his wife Angela of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma Mike Martin and wife Shana, Sue Upton and husband Ricky, and Tim martin, all of Holdenville; six grandchildren:

Justin Uption, Clayton Upton, Alicia Martin, Lauren Martin, Kyle Martin, Augustina Bridges; one brother, Sam Martin, of Wetumka; many other relatives and friends.

A wake services was held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 3, 2007, at Lillye Chapel at Fisher Funeral Home; funeral service was at Lillye Chapel on Monday, June 4 at 1:30 p.m. Joe was laid to rest in McGeeley Family Cemetery north of Holdenville.

Services were under direction of Fisher Funeral Home of Holdenville.

CHESTER FIELDS

WELEETKA — Chester Fields was born Sptember 5, 1931 in Weleetka, Oklahoma to Robert and Melissa Fields. He helds jobs as an Abulance Driver, served as a Deputy Sheriff, as well as being a funeral servise professional in Eufaula for many years. He was a mamber of Arbeka Indian Baptist Church.

Chester Fields went on to be with the lord on the evening of May 7, 2007, he was 75 years old. He was preceded in death by both parents, one sister Leona, one brother Jeff,wife Mable,one beloved daughter Virginia and one beloved son Taylor.

Left to mourn are two daughters, Judy Morsette of Eufaula,Ok.

Ramona Tainpeah of Shawnee, OK, one sone,Chester Eugene Fields who resides in Canada,Chester had 13 grandchildren and numerous and four nephews and one niece.

Pallbearers will be grandsons Chebon Holt, Robert Holt, Bryan Holt, Jai Tainpeah,Hayden Feilds, Taylor Fields Jr. Honorary Pallbearers will be Ray Tainpeah, Jimmy Feilds, Roger Fields,Larry West,Bill West, and Sherman West.

A wake service will be held Friday evfening at Arbeka Indian Baptist Church. Funeral Services will be held Saturday, May 12, 2007 at 2:00 pm at Abreka Indian Baptist Church officiated by rev. Marvin Lowe. Burial will be Abreka Indian Baptist Church cemetary under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home.

PETE MCNAC

TULSA — Pete McNac a resident of Tulsa, formerly of Henryetta was born May 24, 1937 in Henryetta,Oklahoma to Besie and Charley McNac. He passed away Friday, June 14, 2007 at his home in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 70 years and 20 days. He was married to Rita Jean(Reed) McNac in Vernal, Utah on May 10, 1977. Pete was a member of Hickory Ground #2 Indian Batptist Church.

He was preceded in death by both his parents, Charley & Bessie McNac, one sone, Kenny McNac, brother James McNac, sisters, Corina McNac and Jenny Lee McNac., grandchildren, Anthony John Poowewp, and Peter Starr, great grandchild,Blake McNac,stepsons, John Wayn Tabbee amd Eldon Tabbee.

Survived by his wife, Rita Jean McNac, of the home; son, Donnie McNac of Keans Canyon, Arizona; daughter, Pam Chamberlain & husband Dewayne, Henryetta; daughter, Marcy Hill & husband Jacob, Henryetta; son, Norman McNac & wife Rhonda,Henryetta; daughter, Sheila McNac,Tulsa; stepsons,Michael Winap, Henryetta; and Alvin Tabbee Jr,Utah; stepdaughters,Bernadine Tabbee,Utah;

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and Deborah Tabbee,Arizona; foster children, Terry Carey; Jermaine Carey,Raefel Carey, and Vera Lopez, all of Tulsa; 23 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren; brothers, Paul McNac Okemah; and Joseph McNac, Okmulgee; sisters, Mary Bullet,Tulsa; and Martha Lowe, Eufaula, Oklahoma; and a host of neices,nephews other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers wil be Grandsons, Kevin McNac, Erwin Bear, Adam Bear, Jacob McNac,Matt Chamberlain,Todd Chamberlain, Wesley Chamberlain,Raefel Carey, and Terry Carey, Honorary Pallbearers will be nephews and flower girls will be neices.

Wake Services on Monday Evening at 7:00 p.m. at Hickory Ground #2 Church.

Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday,June 19, 2007 at 2:00pm at Hickory Ground #2 Indian Baptist Church officiated by Rev. Mitchell Taylor assisted by Donnie McNac. Burial will be at McNac Family Cemetary under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home in Henryetta.

ALICE MITCHELL

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Alice Mitchell were held on June 22 at Hickory Ground #2.

She was born June 10, 1952 in Okmulgee.

S h e was raised in Okmulgee an later moved to the Tulsa area, where she lived most of her life.



H e r hobbies included dancing and outdoor activities.

Alice was employed by the Department of Human Services at the time of her death.

She was preceded in death by her father, Martin Mitchell; two uncles Walter Tulsa and Kenneth Sourjohn.

Survivors included her sons: Jamie Mitchell of Henryetta and Adrian Mitchell and Eric Mitchell both of Tulsa; mother Nora (Tulsa) Factor of Henryetta; sisters: Sallie Ortiz of Morris, and Marilyn Proctor of Tulsa; brothers: Jim Factor of Okmulgee, Joe Tulsa, and Charlie Mitchell, both of Tusla her companion and special friend Ben Willis of the home; and five grandchildren Zachary Aaron Mitchell, Matthew Ryan Mitchell, Kendale Tyler Mitchell and Elissa Ann Mitchell.

Interment was at the family cemetery in Henryetta.

Gratitude

On behalf of Chester Fields, the family would like to say Myto for the assistance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Arbeka Indian Baptist Chruch, Eufaula Indian Community, Shurden Funeral Home, Family and friends.

We Appreciate all that you have done for us to ease our sorrow. May the Lord keep you in His care.

Myto, The Fields Family

On behalf of Paul Jones, the family would like to thank Montesoma Baptist, Belvin Baptist, High Spring Church, Colonial Park Nursing Center, McClendon and Winter’s Funeral Home, Honor Guards, Light Horse, Friends, neighbors, and Relatives.

The Jones Family

On behalf of Jeremiah McLaurin, the family would like to express their deepest gratitude for all the kindness extended during their time of need.

Also a very heart felt thanks to Calvary Baptist Church and Cornertstone Baptist Church Green Hill furneral home.

The McLaurin Family

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Day of Champions 2007



Creek Festival Fast-Pitch Tourney Rescheduled for Aug. 3

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — Torrential rains in the month of June hit Oklahoma and hit it hard. Arguably the group most notably affected by the showers, other than the lawn care industry, were the hundreds of softball players that flock to the Claude Cox Omniplex every year for the Creek Nation Festival Fast-Pitch Tournament. The players were no doubt full of excitement for the 2007 edition, but Mother Nature had other plans.

“The fast-pitch competition has always been our biggest draw,” said tournament director and Festival coordinator Dean Williams. “So it was really a shame that we weren’t able to have it as part of

Festival weekend this year.”

It won’t be part of Festival weekend, but the tournament is indeed back on and will kick off the evening of August 3 at the Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee. For Williams, rescheduling the tournament was a high priority that is now a relief. “So many people were disappointed that we had to cancel, maybe none more so than me,” said Williams. “The fact that we can have all the teams back and play this tournament really is a big plus. We’ll just hold our breaths and cross our fingers on the weather situation.”

Williams also raved on the prizes that will be given out to the tourney’s

outstanding team and individual performances. The following prizes will be handed out in men’s and women’s competitions respectively; 1st place - Tournament Champion Jackets., 2nd place - Tournament Runner-Up Jackets, 3rd place - T-shirts. In addition nine jackets will be handed out to the tournament’s All-Star performers as well as MVP awards in both competitions.

“Finally we can look forward to having the tournament and giving the players and the fans what they want,” said Williams. “Just hopin that August 3rd won’t bring us any rain.”

A Dream Come True

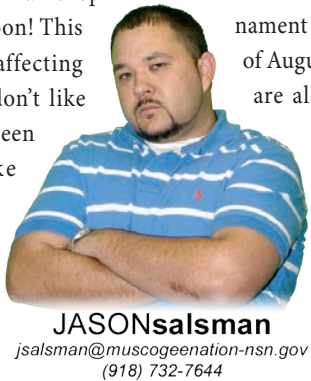
Former Oklahoma Sooner All-American quarterback Josh Heupel (left) and his father Ken had a vision. That vision was to bring their “Day of Champions” football camp to the Native American youth in Oklahoma. Through a partnership with 4 Love of the Game organization, that vision became a reality. The camp was held July 2-4 at Dewar High School and was a resounding success. Campers not only got instruction from Heupel himself but also former Sooners Josh Norman, Curtis Fagan and Butkus Award winner Rocky Calmus. The 3 day camp focuses on the Four Principles of Leadership and includes basic football and life skills as well as teamwork and even incorporates family building exercises. “We are so fortunate to have something like this for our kids,” said Lucas Taylor, who worked diligently with the Heupel’s to bring the camp to Creek country. “For most of them, seeing some of these OU greats is a once in a lifetime opportunity.” It wasn’t just a “day of champions,” it was a lifetime of memories.

For more photos on the Day of Champions Camps visit www.4loveofthegame.org.

photos by Jason Salsman/MNN



Hensci! I hope you can read my column this month because I’m writing this under the light of a candle as I sat inside my ark full of animals. I don’t know why God sent this great flood, but if I never see another raindrop again, it will be too soon! This rain has even been affecting my mood, which I don’t like one bit. I mean I’ve been walkin around like Eeyore from Winnie the Pooh the last month and a half. But, it’s the first of the month, it’s go time!



about you, I’m just trying to hunt down a copy of that picture!!

Speaking of the fast-pitch game, big up’s go out to Dean “Dean-O” Williams for getting the Festival fast-pitch tournament back on schedule. The tournament will now take place the weekend of August 3rd here in Okmulgee and we are all crossing our fingers that the rain will hold up for just a few days. The Festival fast-pitch tourney has featured the best of the best for many years and Williams and staff certainly aren’t going to let a little rain dampen a tradition. Way to go fellas!

In the June edition of the 3 Bag I had the privilege of spotlighting my love for fast-pitch softball by taking a look back at one of the game’s best teams, Turkey Springs. Writing that article was an absolute treat for me. Interviewing team manager/player Grover Wind afforded me the opportunity to hear countless old stories and see timeless pictures. These stories were filled with colorful characters and a richness in life that you just don’t find hardly anymore. The last line of the story summed up basically what they were all about. They were “just a bunch of guys that loved to play ball.” I got to thinking, why can’t everything be that simple? It is a game after all, it’s supposed to be fun. So many times in this era we get wrapped up in wins and losses, accomplishments and failures, that we take our eyes off of the heart of the matter in a lot of instances. They enjoyed each other, they enjoyed the game and with those things taken care of the results then took care of themselves. Too many times in life we have to see the outcome before we even start. Maybe we should just enjoy the ride, and in the end where we are is where we are. That’s the lesson I got out of it and I hope that it spoke to someone else out there too. I want to thank a few people who called in and commented on the article, two in particular. Angela Bunner, who is an administrator with the College of the Muscogee Nation, called to say she enjoyed seeing the article about her dad’s team. Bunner’s father Kenny was one of the finest softball players around in that day (he was also a pretty salty boxer I’m told) and was an integral piece of the Turkey Springs club. I also received a call from Janet Wise, whose husband Tim was on the squad, and she explained how much she had enjoyed the article. Janet if you’re reading this article, I haven’t forgot

To touch on what’s going on in sports on a wider scale, I need to address the recent/latest tragedy in the news regarding the professional wrestling industry. When are these people going to realize that when you abuse steroids and performance enhancing drugs, that you are not only killing yourself, but now you’re killing innocent people. WWE superstar Chris Benoit, described by co-workers as an easy-going and loving family man, was recently found dead in his home along with the bodies of his wife and seven year old child in an apparent murder-suicide case. Benoit allegedly strangled his wife, smothered his son and took his own life almost a day later in a story that is becoming more bizarre as it unfolds. Among the items recovered from the residence; anabolic steroids. Items mentioned as contributing factors in the deaths of almost 60 professional wrestlers in the last 10 years; anabolic steroids. It is time for these people to wake up and realize that these substances are destroying you. Paranoia, mood swings and random acts of rage are all symptoms of abusing steroids. You can’t help but look at those symptoms when a man described as a “dedicated family man that loved his wife and children” would do such an unthinkable thing. Right now it’s a professional wrestler and the general public looks on professional wrestling as a joke, a facade and something that doesn’t happen in the real world. Not anymore. Just think what happens the first time a professional baseball player does something like this. It’s a sad thing, but that’s probably when we’ll decide to start getting serious about getting these substances out of our sports, out of our schools and out of our lives.

Well until next time, it’s been real. Take care and have a good July.

SPORTS

Creek 5k Runners make mark in Festival Run

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

Well, another Musogee (Creek) Nation Festival and Rodeo celebration has come and gone. The annual event, although celebrating the culture and arts, has certainly become a sort of an athletic celebration as throughout its history. What would the festival be without the softball tournaments? Well, the softball has been postponed due to rain, but the wet weather did not stop the annul 5k run. The run seems to grow more and more each year and has become a fan favorite among young and old

alike. The run, which in comparison to the rodeo or softball tournaments, is younger in existence, but has become a staple of the festival agenda. Native American Runners, as well as non-native runners from around the state made their representation known. The course of a 5k, which is 3.1 miles, begins on Hvlpvtvlke, or 'Alligator' street on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex grounds. The course then heads east on Miami street and then eventually turns in a northerly direction on loop 56 heading back to the complex grounds and ends in front of the mound building.



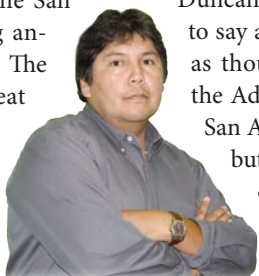
The 5k run of the Muscogee (Creek) Naton was well participated and had a strong Creek influence. (Clockwise, top) Runners hear the gun on Hvlpvtlke (alligator) street to signal the start of the Creek Nation Festival 5K run on Saturday morning. (top right) Kenneth Johnson, finishes first in the 40 and over age division, Johnson, who is Muscogee (Creek) is an accomplished metal jeweler and was the featured artist at the Creek Council House Art Market this year. Johnson's last race before the Creek run was the San Diego marathon held two weeks ago. (above) Monthly Bunny is all smiles as he is congratulated by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill. (middle) Muscogee (Creek) National Council Member and Tulsa District Representative Samuel Alexander also completed the run, and is given a handshake for good luck from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Miss Etta Dickerson Thompson, the Creek Nation Royalty was on hand to start the race. For Alexander the Creek Nation 5K is just one of many run events that Alexander competes in throughout the year. (left) Muscogee (Creek) National Council Member and Tulsa District Representative Cherrah Ridge-Quiet enjoyed the run as well, this was Quiet's first time to tackle the course.



The first Champion of the Native American Boxing Council (NABC) was crowned June 23 at the Emerald Queen Casino in Tacoma, Washington. Randy Cantrell of Puyallup, Wahington stopped Johnathan Corn in the fourth round of an historic fight. Standing next to Cantrell is NABC Championship Committee member Chissie Spencer. Spencer who is from South Dakota said the fight, was the main event of the evening. Spencer, along with other members of the NABC, look to create even more title fights within the NABC, which is a professional Boxing Organization affiliated with the North American Boxing Federation and the World Boxing Council.

SHOP TALK with GERALD

Well, I hope everyone is safe and sound out there and you're getting a chance to watch some really good sporting events happening out in Creek country and beyond. Congratulations to the San Antonio Spurs on winning another NBA Championship. The Spurs accomplished the feat in methodical fashion-just slow, precise and well planned basketball and beating the Cleveland Cavaliers. You have to admit it wasn't exciting to the modern average fan who sometimes only wants to count the number of slam dunks and defensive rejects that happen on the floor, but the Spurs have to be saluted for their very disciplined. Some fans even considered the series boring and televised ratings had dropped during the Championship series which saw San Antonio win it all in a sweep of four games to none. What caught the attention of most fans was the emergence of LeBron James and the Cavaliers in their conquering of the Detroit Pistons in the Eastern Conference finals. James definitely represents the future of the NBA and chances are this won't be the last time that he sees the finals. But James represents what all great players like him should do-rise to the top and give his best games when his team needs him the most, which he did do. This was great for the pure fan as well as for the game of professional basketball in itself. It did need a jolt, and the next era of professional stars should be ready to take their place. After the Kobe-Los Angeles Laker disaster, the NBA needs a star who shows what the traits of unselfish basketball can do for a team, a city and the game in general. If this is a new era and LeBron is the one to usher it in, it would be a fitting time. It's always entertaining to watch how the eras have changed. Old-time fans can remember when the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers battled it out in the 80's and then passed the torch to the Detroit Pistons. The boys from Mo-town



GERALD Wofford
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then saw the changing of the guard go to the Jordan-lead Chicago Bulls of the 90's. Its great to see dynasties created and stars of one time introduce the next. Will it be LeBron? But then again, Tim Duncan and the Spurs have a little to say about that as well. It seemed as though after the retirement of the Admiral-David Robinson, that San Antonio would say good-bye, but they only got stronger with current Spurs teams looking just as good as their teams from the past. Last month, the 32nd annual National Indian Tennis Championships (NAITA) were held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Muscogee (Creek) citizens Floyd and Jerry Bales always put on a good show in bringing the best Native American tennis talent from around the country to this region. The tournament was held over the memorial day weekend. Nationwide participation was also seen in all parts of the weekend agenda as Saturday morning events opened with a prayer by Gene Poweshiek of the Mesh-waki tribe of Iowa. The event also held a tennis camp for children with over 70 participating. With the Bales brothers putting on a good program, they also wanted to thank a few others who make it all work great: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management Emergency Management, Eagle Nest, Domino's Pizza, Bales Communication Service, United States Tennis Association, Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker George Tiger, Muscogee (Creek) Community Health Representatives Program, Standing Tall Tennis Association, Fred and Jeremiah of United States Tennis Association, Traditional Home Health Service, Shuttle Stop of Morris, Waffle House, Gene Poweshiek, Marvin's Place, Wal-Mart, D.C.I. Communication of Tulsa, Dan Sisney, STP of Tulsa, Marvin Jones-coordinator for all the tennis matches, Carlene Madrrid, who is the Vice-President of the NAITA.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should the Bonds home run record even be acknowledged due to the alleged steroid use?

GERALD WOFFORD

What a world we live in today, it would have been interesting fifty years ago to hear Mays, Mantle, and other greats of they day discusssing scientific medicine and how it could perhaps enhance their batting performance back then. Bonds is a great athlete, and its too bad with the excitement of a home-run race, that an event such as the question of drugs will darken this.

I think in spite of this speculation, Bonds should still be celebrated for his drive toward the record. It is still a special time for baseball, and will be remembered either way. Probably the bigger question is for Major League Baseball, do they want to controll their own PR and mark a special event the way they want to, or do they want to leave it to a tough public.

JASON SALSMAN

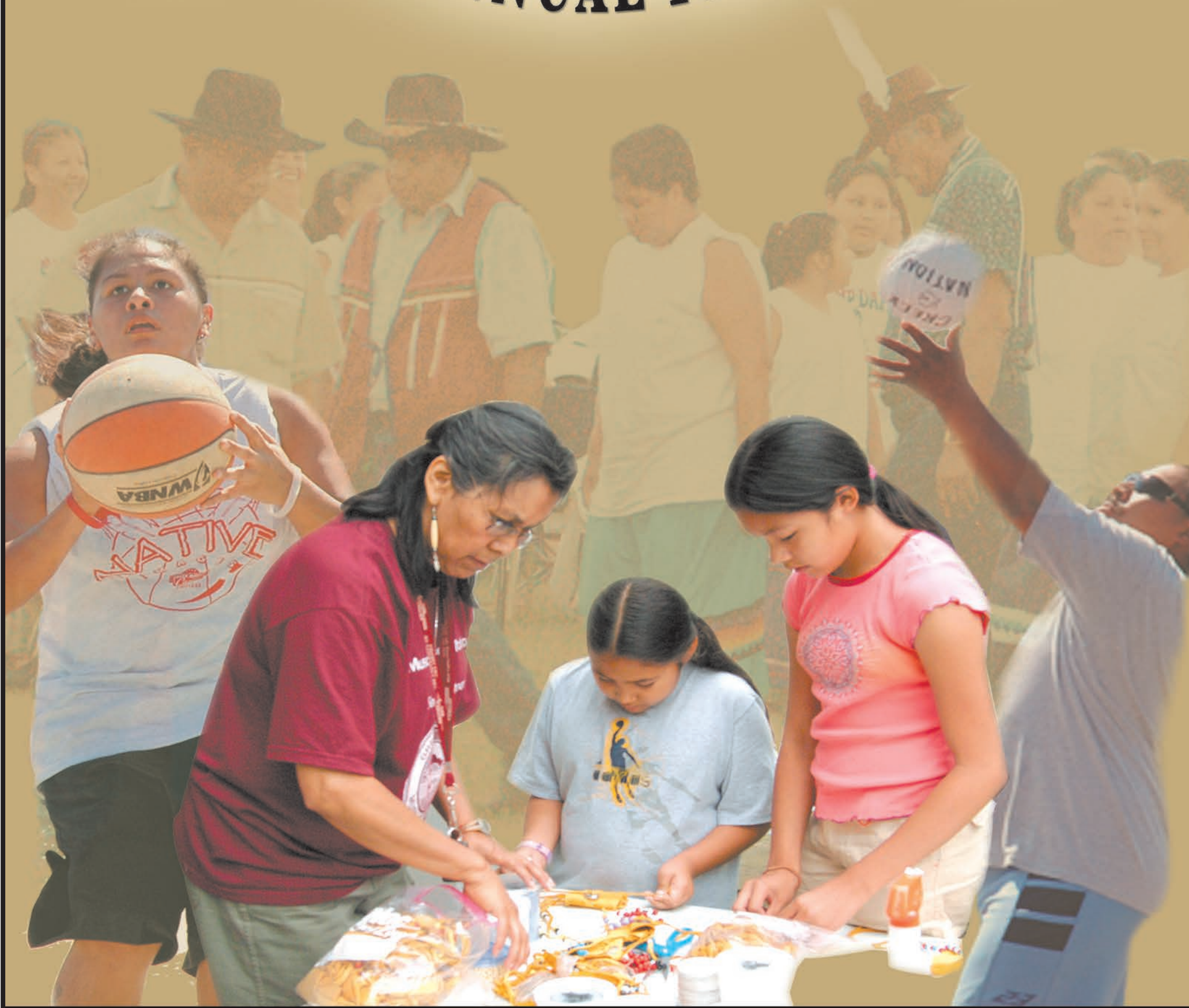
While I am under the impression that an injection of steroids does not improve hand eye coordination, at the end of the day I still believe that it is a shortcut to success. Hitting a baseball is a difficult task steroids are not, but this will always be attained record in my eyes. I have watched bonds career over the years and have often been puzzled by his indifference to the media and insistence on being reclusive. I now

know why. Any man that believes in keeping a secret, believes his actions are wrong. I feel that if he believes his actions are wrong then they must be. I will never know why Bonds felt the need to cheat. All I know that his place in baseball history will now be questioned instead of revered. That is a sad thing to look back at what could have been so promising to now what has become a fiasco.

HIGHLIGHTS

33RD ANNUAL CREEK NATION FESTIVAL

• "REMOVAL • TERRITORY • STATEHOOD • CENTENNIAL: ANOTHER MILESTONE IN OUR JOURNEY"



JUNE 15-18, 2007

Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament, held at Cobblestone Creek Golf Club located at 700 E. Smith Ferry Rd. in Muskogee, was a swinging success with even more golfers showing up to test the field. The winners are as followed: Senior A: first place was Jerry Perry, second was Jr. Ross, and third was Joe Reese. Senior B : first place was Will Freeman, second was Bobby Jones, and third was Robt Whitekiller. A: first place was Dennis Carter, second place was Delbert Duck, and third was Anthony Pritchett. B: first place was Travis Scott, second was Dale Winney, and third was Woxie Wacoche. And last but not least first place 1B was Dary Meigs, second was Patrick Six, and third 1A was Randy Fixico. The game of golf is quickly becoming another sport picked up by Native American athletes.



Living Legends

OMNIPLEX -- One of the more meaningful things each year for the Creek Nation is the Living Legends Ceremony. Created by Chief Ellis two year's ago, this ceremony is a tremendous way of the tribe showing their appreciation and admiration for Creek citizens who have lived a full life and represented their tribe with dignity. The event was emceed this year by Gary Farmer. This year's Living Legends were Lizzie Bruner who was born to Lilla and Liza (Long) Bruner, on August 8, 1915, in Holdenville, Okla. Lizzie graduated from Sapulpa High School in 1937. She was later married to the late George Bruner in 1945. Lizzie and George had a total of 7 children. Another honored Living Legend was Jimmy who was born August 14, 1932 in Kansas City, MO to Norman and Mattie (Stidham) Anderson. Jimmy married Cowena Sue Bruner in 1959, they later had 4 sons. From 2003 to the present, Jimmy is Associate Pastor of Many Springs Baptist Church, Holdenville, OK. Martha Berryhill was also honored as the Original Allottee she will be 107 this year.

Entertainment

OMNIPLEX -- The Claude Cox Omniplex was rockin Friday night with Hurricane Mason taken the stage for this year's festival entertainment. The crowd also enjoyed a great performance was followed by Foghat. The crowd was large and didn't leave disappointed. Saturday's, line up included: Native singing; Second Chief Alfred Berryhill "Warm Welcome" Scholarship; Special prize drawings; Living Legends Ceremony, & Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address; LoCash Cowboys at and Marty Stuart. On Sunday was Jami Smith and alot of Gospel Singing that was held for all to witness.



Art Festival

OKMULGEE— During the extensive list of events taking place at the 33rd annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation festival, renown artist Kenneth Johnson found time to offer some lucky people hands-on glimpse of what he does for a living. Johnson is an Oklahoma native who moved to New Mexico in 1988 where he learned the skill of silversmithing. After receiving several awards and being published in many publications, giving people the opportunity to work with him proved to be an exciting treat. One student in the class was Breanna White. White said she was just in town for the pageant and heard about the class and though it was a good idea, then decided to take it. White, age 12, was the youngest student taking the class. The classes that Johnson offered took place June 9 through June 16 at the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee. Festival goers were given the chance to take lessons and make jewelry just like Kenneth does and also got an up close look at Johnson's art exhibit. The art that was on display showed how Johnson's techniques reflect his Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole heritage. Some of the art that was on display consisted of contemporary materials such as; palladium, gold and faceted gems.

Parade

OKMULGEE- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Parade weaved it's way through downtown Okmulgee this year with a little bit of everything. Tribal officials, lighthorsemen, fire trucks, and horses made there way through a throng of Muscogee citizens who had turned out for the event. The Parade left a lot of citizens entertained and a lot of children with pockets full of candy. The winners for the float contest were; Community division: 1st Place for a trophy and \$500 – Descendants of Chitto Harjo & Charlie Coker – Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground; 2nd Place for a trophy and \$300 - Mvskoke Youth stomp Dance Group; and 3rd Place for a trophy and \$100 – Hickory Ground #1 Indian Baptist church. MCN Department Division:1st Place Trophy – Reintegration; 2nd Place Trophy – District Court; 3rd Place Trophy – Tobacco Prevention.



Farmers Market

Many on-goers enjoyed a new festival feature, the Farmers Matket, where fresh produce and friendly familar faces, such as Lanessa Melton, Donna Martin and others. All were eager to provide them with some of the freshest produce this side of the Mound.



2007 Princess Royalty

Miss Mvskoke Princess is Samantha Coon from Castle, Junior Miss is Taylor Tiger of Glenpool, Little Miss Division III is Shyla Lane of Okmulgee; Little Miss Division II is Taiah Sanders of Okmulgee, Little Miss Division I is Angel Hartley of Wetumka and the Senior Miss is Etta Dickerson of Tulsa.

Horseshoes

One of the most popular sports with Native American people is horseshoes. In fact most tribal citizens would not be able to say they didn't know at least one person with a horseshoe pit in the yard. Let's face it, if a horseshoe tournament was not part of the Creek Festival, there would be trouble. One of the most exciting events to watch, simply for the fact that there are some really good pitchers, the horseshoe tournament was again a highlight. this year's winners were Men's Single's first place was Danny Adams, second Leon Bell, and third Bobby Harjo. Women's Single's first place Sara Morgan, second Ramono Harjo. Doubles first place was Danny Adams and Bunkey Deere, second was Bob Harjo and Sara Morgan. The Ringer Contest winner was Sam Beaver.



Pow Wow

Pow Wow Dance Contest Winners: Junior Girls First – Jandra Levi – Cheyenne/Arapaho – El Reno, OK Second – Robynn Rulo – Osage – Pawhuska, OK Third – Rickie Hughes – Otoe/Kaw/Seminole/Creek – Hominy, OK Fourth – Taylor Williams – UKB Cherokee – Lawrence, KS Junior Boys First – Mason Bighorse – Osage – Broken Arrow, OK Second – Wolfie Leitka – Cherokee/Creek/Seminole Third – Ryan Goodfox – Pawnee/Sac & Fox/ Comanche – Shawnee, OK Fourth – Bryce Bailey – Sac & Fox – Drumright, OK Women's Buckskin First – Nellie Yarholar – Sac & Fox – OKC, OK Second – Kheri Myers – Comanche – Lawton, OK Third – Jacquie Tsonetokoy – Kiowa – Carnegie, OK Rosie Motah – Comanche/Ponca/Cheyenne – Lawton, OK; Women's Cloth First – Salina No Ear Todome – Ponca/Otoe Second – Tracy Pewo – Kiowa/Pawnee Third – Angie Thurman-Goodfox – Sac & Fox/Comanche – Shawnee, OK Fourth – Casee Hughes – Otoe/Kaw/Seminole/Creek – Hominy, OK Women's Fancy Shawl First – Shelley Bointy – Dakota/Ottawa – Lawrence, KS Second – Samantha Bointy – Kiowa/Comanche – OKC,OK Third – Elizabeth Hudson – Sioux/Kiowa/Cherokee Fourth – Courtney Reecten – Kiowa/Creek Women's Jingle First – Shema Yearby – Seminole/Creek Second – Rae Ann Simmons – Cherokee – Wellston, OK Third – Amy No Ear – Otoe/Ponca Fourth – Victoria Nevaquaya – Comanche – Apache, OK Men's Fancy First – Graham Primeaux – Sac & Fox/Ponca – Shawnee, OK Second – George Alexander – Otoe/Iowa – Ponca City, OK Third – Joe Bointy – Kiowa/Comanche – Lawrence, KS Fourth – Billy Pewo, Sr. – Comanche – Anadarko, OK; Men's Grass First – Dijay Ya holar – Cheyenne/Arapaho – OKC,OK Second – Lance Cully – Apache/Kiowa – Clinton, OK Third – Tsyoslake House – Oneida – Oneida, WI Fourth – Jay Roberts – Chickasaw – Norman, OK; Men's Straight First – Justin Yearby – Choctaw/Creek – Overbrook, OK Second – Jason Lightfoot – Pawnee/Otoe – Apache, OK Third – Randy Frazier – PB Pottowatomi/ Choctaw Fourth – Billy Bemo – Sac & Fox – Shawnee, OK Men's Traditional First – Wayne Longhorn – Shawnee – Tecumseh, OK Second – Nashoba Simmons – Choctaw – Wellston, OK Third – Comanche Johnkeel – Comanche/Pawnee – Hugo, OK Fourth – Miguel Stands & Looks Back – Claremore, OK Golden Age Men First – Jimmy “Coach” Johnson – Kickapoo – Dustin, OK Second – Barney Mitchell – Seminole/Creek – Bethany, OK Third – Charley Harjo – Creek/Cherokee – Okmulgee, OK Golden Age Women First – Carolyn Little Axe – Norman, OK Second – Wanda Tiger – Nuyaka, OK Third – Almeta Harris – Ponca – Stroud, OK Drum Contest First – Blackbird Singers – Graham Primeaux – Shawnee, OK Second – Black Horse Singers – Lance Goodfox – Tulsa, OK.

Elderly Activity

Quilt Show Competition First Place Winner, Maxine Adams; Second Place Winner, Pat Noon; Third Place Winner Louise Burgess. For the Machine Quilted Competition the First Place Winner was Salina Yargee; Second Place Winner, Lillian Thomas; Third Place Winner Lowetta Samuels. In the Jack Competition First Place Winner, Rachel Bruner; Second Place Winner, Deborah Pruitt, Third Place Winner Pat Factor. For the Softke Competition First Place Winner, Helen Walker; Second Place Winner, Pearl Thomas; Third Place Winner Patricia Noon and the Fourth Place Winner, Ruben Freeman.



Rodeo

Barebacks: 1st Place - Cody Parker, Claremore, OK.; Bullriding: 1st Place - Brad Fish, Harrah, OK. 2nd Place - Joe Hicks, Okmulgee, OK ; Jr. Steers: 1st Place - Andre Jumper, Big Cypress, FL. Tied for 2nd - Kash Knott, Owasso, OK and Wyatt Rogers, Leech, OK.; Calf Roping: 1st Place - Walt White, Okmulgee, OK. 2nd Place - Dale Fulbright, Muskogee, OK. 3rd Place Howard Edmondson, Henryetta, OK.; Breakaway Roping: 1st Place - Robi Jo Inman, Ketchum, OK. 2nd Place - Bobbi Jo Warren, Oaks, OK. 3rd Place - Kaity Beaty - Ponca City, OK.; Steer Wrestling: 1st Place - Howard Edmondson, Henryetta, OK. 2nd Place - Ryan Mims, Holdenville, OK.; Cowgirls Barrel Race: 1st Place - Sallye Williams, Skiatook, OK. 2nd Place - Micaila Carlile, Tahlequah, OK. 3rd Place - Stephanie Arnold, Pryor, OK.; Jr. Barrels: 1st Place - Taci Owens, Ketchum, OK. 2nd Place - Kaitlyn Prentice, Bokchita, OK. 3rd Place - Alex Winship, Hugo, OK. Team Roping: 1st Place - Ralph Williams, Skiatook, OK, and Tarz Foreman, Oaks, OK. 2nd Place - Mick Foreman, Rose, OK, and Tyler Hutchins, Rose, OK. 3rd Place - J.D. Bacon, Ochelata, OK, and Ty Knott, Locust Grove, OK.

Volleyball

This year the volleyball games started at 9:00, with many teams entering. This years first place was Kaboom of Oklahoma City; second place was Sun Devils of Okmulgee; third place was Native of Okmulgee; and fourth place was Seminole of Seminole. And the Kaboom played Sun Devils three times to win the title, winning by one point.



5K(3.2 miles) Run

The 5K Run/Walk had a wonderful turnout this year with 113 participants. the Overall Winner: Jamin Jones from Ada with a time of 19:01. The Top three Men Runners were: Jamin Jones, second Kenneth Johnson, third James Monroe. Top Three Men Walk: first was Morris Lewis, second Toslhen Willits, third Alfruel Mason Jr. Top Three Women Runners: first was Brandi Walker, second Naley Lewis, third Denny Lee. Top Women Walk: first Kimberlee Little, second Melanie Frye, and third Linda Parrish.

Safety seat

The Safety seat educational demonstration was held on the west side of the Mound. Baby Jacob was one of many babies who received a safety seat at the demonstration.



Stompdance

The stompdance was a spectacular event starting around 6 and lasting around midnight despite the rain. Everyone young and old participated in the stompdance. The stompdance kicks off the festival at the omniplex this is what is keeping the tradition alive in the Creek Festival.

Slow Pitch Results

Women's 5 Teams Round Robbin Format:
First Place, Renegades, Salina, Oklahoma (Record 4-0)
Second Place, Hi Five, Florida & Oklahoma (Record 3-0)
Third Place, DC Extreme, Tahlequah, Oklahoma (Record 2-2)
Men's 10 Teams: First Place, Native Legends, Tahlequah, Oklahoma; Second Place, Shades of Red, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Third Place, Seminoles, Florida & Oklahoma
Co-Ed 17 Teams: First Place, Whoosh, Ada, Oklahoma (Repeat Champs); Second Place, Night hawks, Tulsa, Oklahoma (Surprise Team); Third Place, Reds, Florida & Oklahoma
Special Thanks goes to Dean Williams & Crew for getting the festival fields ready and for doing such a great job. Mallory Bible for keeping up with entries, Ruth Bible for doing extra things for the tournament. Lucas Taylor & Victor Bear



Youth Basketball

The first place winners are: 13-15 boys division are the NDN Ballers; 13-15 girls are the Oklahoma Indians and the 16-18 are the Hasbens

HYMN SINGING

This years Traditional Creek Hymns singers came from all around. Some of the attendance were Believers Baptist, Davis Chapel, Deep Fork Hillabee, New Joy Baptist, Tuskegee Baptist, Weogufkee Baptist, Bemo Baptist, Belvin Baptist, Butler Baptist, Grave Creek Baptist, Hickory Ground #1, Little Cussetah, Little Quarsarty, many Springs, Randall Baptist, Snake Creek and Concharty.



HEALTH FAIR

This year the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Fair was a big success. Alot of vendors came to share information with the festival crowd. There were handouts for all ages and a few incentives along the way.

GYMNASTICS DEMONSTRATION

Even though the gymnastics demonstration was canceled, some of the girls gave the crowd a show in the wet grass. The gymnastics bulding is located in Henryetta, where the girls spend alot of time improving their talented skills.



Muscogee Creek Nation Walking Program





David R. Johnson with Chief Ellis was the winner of the 2002 Dodge Ram 1500 Pickup. The tickets were purchased for \$2 per ticket.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation Honor Guard



Hymn Singing



Fannie Barnett, Living Legend Lizzie Bruner and Billie Sulphur-Scott



Gary Farmer, Native American actor, producer, director, musician and journalist was the emcee of the main stage and the Grand Marshall of the parade.



Pamela Beartusk of Bixby with Chief Ellis, receiving the keys to the 2002 Ford Windstar giveaway. She won the van by providing her citizenship.



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Earn entries with every win of \$100 or more on any VGT machine. On July 19th, three contestants will be drawn once every hour from 7:00PM to 10:00PM. Finalists are given a cash prize of \$100 and will select one of twelve keys. The player with the working key wins the car. Participants must have Cache Card to participate and must be present to win.

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NATIVE news TODAY

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The following registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are urged to contact the Election Board of your address change. According to return mail you are no longer at the residence indicated on your voter registration form. This could effect your voting in the 2007 Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council election.

Relatives of persons listed below; if you know of any deceased persons listed please contact our office at (918) 756-8700 ext. 7685, 7684 or 7631 so that he/she may be removed from the computer.

Johnson, Joann
Johnson, Joseph
Johnson, Joyce C.
Johnson, Karen M.
Johnson, Kenneth
Johnson, Kimberly A.
Johnson, Lee Otis
Johnson, Little T. Jr.
Johnson, Lizzie
Johnson, Lucinda
Johnson, Marvin Ray
Johnson, Mary B.
Johnson, Melissa Gail
Johnson, Rhonda Kay
Johnson, Ronald
Johnson, Ruby Lee
Johnson, Samuel Jr.
Johnson, Sarah
Johnson, Shirley Ann
Johnson, Thomas L.
Johnson, Tony Sr.
Johnson, Twana J.
Johnson, Van Lee
Johnston, Tracey
Jones (Barnett), Nellie
Jones(Freeman)Annie
Jones(Grayson),Betty J
Jones(Stone),Dianne M.
Jones, Aylsia M.
Jones, Bonnie L.
Jones, Charles A.
Jones, Christoper C.
Jones, Danny Joe
Jones, Darrel Lee
Jones, Darrell Ray
Jones, Dixie Kay
Jones, Gary Laverne
Jones, Jeremiah K.
Jones, Jesse A. Jr.
Jones, Johnny Eugene
Jones, Johona J. M.
Jones, Juanita
Jones, Kathryn w.
Jones, Kelli J.
Jones, Laverne
Jones, Patrick w.
Jones, PaulJones, Robert
Jones, Roxanne Lynn
Jones, Samuel Leroy
Jones, Shane O.
Jones,Kenneth R.
Jordan, Clifford L.
Jordan, Helen
Jordan, Jennifer
Jordan, Lillian
Joseph, Danny L.
Joseph, Matthew A.
Josie, Katrina Rose
Joslin, Patricia Ann
Judy, Randy L.
Kamp, Robert A.
Kamp, Ted M.
Kaniatobe, Marian
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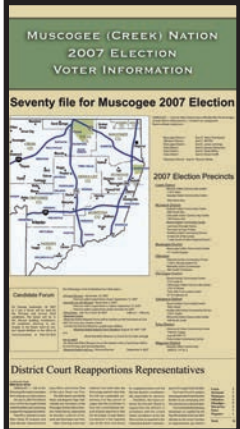
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Local Creek Citizen finds Rare Chevron Bead

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

GEORGIA — For the past two years, Donna Beaver, Chief Deputy Court Clerk of Administration and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, has participated in an archeological dig with the Fernbank Museum of Natural History in Atlanta, GA. This year an unexpected surprise made Beaver's trip one she will never forget. On this year's one week excavation Beaver found a Chevron bead that was dated back to the 1500's.

The teams were looking for a Spanish mission along the Little Okmulgee river in Georgia and most of what they found were broken pottery pieces and pipe fragments, until that moment when Beaver felt something in her hands that did not feel like anything else she had handled. As she began to sift the rest of the dirt out of her hands, Beaver felt something different and saw the tiny bead through the mud and immediately she knew that she may have made a major discovery.

The bead that Beaver found is the only one of its kind that has been found in this hemisphere. Many other types of beads have

been found on these types of digs, but none this extraordinary. Typically the beads that have been found dig site were not found

until water sifting occurred at the labs. The bead that Beaver found actually came at the dig site.

Beaver said, "When I found

the bead, it just felt different. I didn't realize what it was until the blue shinned through the mud."

Beaver was very lucky to find the bead because it was small, almost like a BB or a small pearl. If finding the bead was not exciting enough, later on Beaver found out that the type of bead she found is the only one of its kind in this hemisphere. Beaver described finding the bead as, "When I saw the bead my heart started pounding." After she realized that she had found something, Beaver quickly called for one of the professors and he became ecstatic, he continued to explain that this was the first bead to actually be found in the field instead of in a lab.

Beaver said, "It is great that one of our own Creek citizens found the bead." Beaver continued to say how exciting it is to know that some of the Muscogee (Creek) ancestors may have been in that area in the past.

The type of bead that Beaver found was a Chevron bead. Here are some history and facts about the Chevron beads. These types of beads are special glass beads, the first specimens of this type were created by glass bead makers in Venice and Murano, Italy, towards the end of the 14th century. They may also be referred to as Rosetta, or star beads. Venetian chevron beads are drawn beads, made from glass canes which are created in specifically constructed star moulds. The first chevron beads were made to-

wards the end of the 15th century, consisting of 7 layers of alternating colors. They usually have six facets.

Chevron beads can be composed of a varied number of consecutive layers of colored glasses. The initial core is formed from a molten ball of glass that was melted in a furnace. If the glass worker is making beads, an air bubble is blown into the center of the gather via a blowpipe, thus creating an opening, the future bead's perforation.

This significant finding is truly amazing as one of the Muscogee (Creek) Citizens made such a wonderful discovery.



Chevron Bead



Pictured above is Donna Beaver. This picture was taken shortly after she found the Chevron bead at the dig site in Georgia.

Chief A.D. Ellis vs MCN National Council

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

On July 18, 2007 the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation held a Show Cause Hearing for the allegation of contempt made against the MCN National Council in A.D. Ellis v. Muscogee (Creek) National Council filed on December 15, 2006.

At the onset of the hearing, Geoffrey M. Standing Bear, attorney for the defendants, filed a Motion for the Court to Take

Judicial Notice of NCA 07-167 and NCA 07-168 and a Motion for the Recusal of Justice Almerigi; causing a slight delay while the Justices took the motions under consideration. Rulings on those motions were made from the bench, proceeded with the 10-hour long hearing.

During the trial, testimonies were given by the following people: Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Eddie Lagrone, James Pratt,

Thomas Yahola, George Tiger, Robert Trepp and Roger Barnett.

The hearing is in the process of being transcribed, which is extensive due to the length of the hearing. The Justices are currently working on their final Opinion and will sort through the transcript so it can be referenced in pertinent places in the Opinion.

Due to the magnitude of the transcript and time the Justices will spend going thru it as

well as other court documents and research, the Opinion was not ready at the time of publication of the Muscogee Nation News, but it will be published in the next issue of the newspaper. Additionally, the Communications Department will make the Opinion immediately available on the Muscogee Nation website upon its issuance.

Martha Berryhill Celebrates 107th Birthday



Nicholas Howk/MNN

On July 12, 2007 Martha Berryhill celebrated her 107th birthday. Friends and family gathered at Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church to celebrate her long life.

USDA Recall

Based on an ongoing investigation by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) of products produced by Castleberry's Food (Castleberry) (Est. #195) an expanded recall notification was issued for commercial products. The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has not purchased any of the products affected by the recall for USDA nutrition assistance programs.

Although the USDA commodity Castleberry beef

stew and bison stew are not considered suspect by either FSIS or FDA, as a precautionary measure, all product on hand should be destroyed using methods recommended by the state or local health departments.

Product should be bagged and tagged for disposal and placed in a secured garbage can. Do not discard any of these products in a sink, garbage disposal or toilet. If you have any questions please contact the Muscogee Nation Food Distribution Program at (918) 756-3467



Nicholas Howk/MNN

Pictured above is Attorney Rod Wiemer. Wiemer presented the case involving Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and the MCN National Council to the MCN Supreme Court on July 18, 2007.

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS - SECTION A

EXECUTIVE A2

Message from the Office of the Principal and Second Chief



TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings; Message from the desk of the Speaker George Tiger



BUSINESS A5

UPDATE: Creek Nation Tulsa Casino



BUSINESS A5

Tulsa Casino Earns Three Prestigious Awards



We're Looking for Creek Vendors

The Executive Branch asks any Creek citizens who sell goods/services, make crafts or create art to contact the Communications Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation so information can be posted on the MCN website as a service to our communities and citizens. Contact information: nhowk@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or call (918) 732-7697

EXECUTIVE

Second Opinion

Henscil!
It's that time of year again for the Creek Nation. We had our first forum in Eufaula and every candidate expressed what their goals were for their office that they are seeking. If you haven't registered to vote, please do so. Also, if you have moved, it's very important that you submit a change of address. I ask that you be prayerful in your selection for each office. Mvto.

I'm returning again to an excerpt from William Bartram on the Southeastern Indians by Gregory A. Waselkov and Kathryn E. Holland Braund. This is a continuation from last month's issue: "With the survey concluded, Bartram and McIntosh returned to Darien. From July 1773 to March 1774, Bartram's movements seem to have been limited to the Altamaha River valley. That river is formed by the confluence of the Ocmulgee and Oconee rivers.

Col. Barnet, who was chosen to conduct this business on the part of the Georgians, a gentleman every way qualified for that important trust, in a very friendly and obliging manner, gave me an invitation to accompany him on this tour.

The survey party included "[35] surveyors, astronomers, artisans, chaincarriers, markers, guides and hunters, besides a very respectable number of gentlemen, who joined us, in order to speculate in the lands, together with ten or twelve Indians..." The group followed the lower trading path to the Ogeechee River and proceeded on to Little River, where Bartram noted evidence of a Mississippian archaeological site.

[37] Not far distant from the terrace, or eminence, overlooking the low grounds of the river, many very magnificent monu-

ments of the power and industry of the ancient inhabitants of these lands are visible. I observed a stupendous conical pyramid, or artificial mount of earth, vast tetragon terraces, and a large sunken area, of a cubical form, encompassed with banks of earth; and certain traces of a large Indian town, the work of a powerful nation, whose period of grandeur perhaps long preceded the discovery of this continent.

[38] After about seven miles progress through this forest of gigantic Black Oaks, we enter on territories which exhibit more varied scenes; the land rises almost insensibly by gentle ascents, exhibiting desert plains, high forests, gravelly and stony ridges, ever in sight of rapid rivulets; the soil, as already described. We

then passed over large rich savannas, or natural meadows, wide-spreading cane swamps and frequently old Indian settlements, now deserted and overgrown with forests. These are always on or near the banks of rivers, or great swamps, the artificial mounts and terraces elevating them above the surrounding groves. I observed, in the ancient cultivated fields, 1. Diospyros, 2. Gleditsia triacanthos, 3. Prunus Chicasaw,* 4. Callicarpa, 5. Morus rubra, 6. Juglans exaltata, 7. Juglans nigra, which inform us, that these trees were cultivated by the ancients, on account of their fruit, as being wholesome and nourishing food. Tho' these are natives of the forest, yet they thrive better, and are more fruitful, in cultivated plantations, and the fruit is in great estimation with the present generation of Indians, particularly Juglanss exaltata* commonly called shell-barked hickory; the Creeks store up the latter in their towns. I have seen above an hundred bushels of these nuts belonging to one family. They pound

them to pieces, and then cast them into boiling water, which, after passing through fine strainers, preserves the most oily part of the liquid: this they call by a name which signifies Hiccorry milk; it is as sweet and rich as fresh cream, and is an ingredient in most of their cookery, especially homony and corn cakes.

*The Chicasaw plumb I think must be excepted, for though certainly a native of America, yet I never saw it wild in the forests, but always in old deserted Indian plantations: I suppose it to have been brought from the S.W. beyond the Mississippi by the Chicasaws.

Native Americans frequently assisted European explorers and surveyors in their mapmaking endeavors. As a consequence, many of the best maps of the colonial Southeast incorporate considerable Indian content, usually unacknowledged. The following dispute occurred at a "Buffalo Lick" near the headwaters of Little River.

[39] We were detained at this place one day, in adjusting and planning the several branches of the survey. A circumstance occurred during this time, which was a remarkable instance of Indian sagacity, and had nearly disconcerted all our plans, and put an end to the business. The surveyor having fixed his compass on the staff, and about to ascertain the course from our place of departure, which was to strike Savanna river at the confluence of a [40] certain river, about seventy miles distance from us; just as he had determined upon the point, the Indian Chief came up, and observing the course he had fixed upon, spoke, and said it was not right; but that the course to the place was so and so, holding up his hand, and pointing. The surveyor replied, that he himself was certainly right, adding, that that little instrument (pointing to the compass) told him so, which, he said, could not err. The Indian answered, he knew better, and that the little wicked instrument was a liar; and he would not acquiesce in its decisions, since it would wrong the Indians out of their

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Citizen expresses appreciation for scholarship received from Higher Education Department Editor:

I wanted to personally thank you and the Nation for providing me with a scholarship to attend law school. As I am sure you are well aware, attending law school is an extremely expensive and challenging endeavor. Having the additional fainacial assistance from the Creek Nation was an ease on the personal financial burden I endured over the past three years.

Hopefully the higher education program and similar programs are continued to provide others the same opportunities I have enjoyed. I also look forward to utilizing my law degree to promote and protect the interests of the Creek Nation as well as other Native American tribes.

Again, the help was truly appreciated and I thank you and the Nation for making these programs possible.

Sincerely,
William F. Deer II, Topeka, KS

land. This mistake (the surveyor proving to be in the wrong) displease the Indians; the dispute arose to that height, that the Chief and his party had determined to break up the business, and return the shortest way home, and forbad the surveyors to proceed any farther; however, after some delay, the complaisance and prudent conduct of the Colonel made them change their resolution; the Chief became reconciled, upon condition that the compass should be discarded, and rendered incapable of serving on this business; that the Chief himself should lead the survey; and, moreover, receive an order for a very considerable quantity of goods.

Following the course determined by the headman, the survey party proceeded north to the headwaters of Broad River. There Bartram obsdrved a plant.

[41] . . . the Physic-nut, or Indian Olive The Indians, when they go in pursuit of deer, carry this fruit with them, supposing that it has the power of charming or drawing that creature to them; from whence, with the traders, it has obtained the name of the Physic-nut, which means, with them, charming, conjuring or fascination

[figure 9].
[44] One of our Indian young men, this evening, caught a very large salmon trout, weighing about fifteen pounds, which he presented to the Col. Who ordered it to be served up for supper.

The Indian sruck this fish, with a reed harpoon, pointed very sharp, barbed and hardened by the fire. The fish lay close under the steep bank, which the Indian discovered and struck with his reed; instantly the fish darted off with it, whilst the Indian pursued, without extracting the harpoon, and with repeated thrusts drowned it, and then dragged it to shore.

TO BE CONTINUED

District Court Filings for July 2007

Civil:	
Quik Cash of America #1 v. Jamie Kirkland	Small Claims
Quik Cash of America #1 v. Rachael July	Small Claims
Quik Cash of America #1 v. Faith Watashe	Small Claims
Denton Finance v. Thomas July	Small Claims
Denton Finance v. Rachael July	Small Claims
Denton Finance v. Faith Watashe	Small Claims
Allen Harjo, Eli Grayson, June Mustari, v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board, and Nettie Harjo, Individually and as manager of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board and Eugenia Tiger, Individually and as Chairman of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board	Petition for Writ of Mandamus
Creditors Recovery Corp. v. Beverly Sullivan	Foreign Judgment
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Michelle Borders	Foreign Judgment
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Kinshasa & Kimberly Bobb	Foreign Judgment
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Carol G. Cook	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Katrina Beaver	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Robert Washington Jr.	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Jesse Lindsey	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Karen Carnes	Small Claims
David & Michelle Camacho v. Rebecca Noah & Michael J. Fish	Foreign Judgment
Corena Roastingbear v. Jacky Ray Putman	Petition
Divorce:	
Ladean Navarro v. Eliseo Navarro	Divorce
Family Domestic:	
Tribal Child Support Services, ex rel., Petition to Register Kim Ellis v. Sonny Bear	District Court Order
Protective Orders::	
Sonna Dunn v. Paul Wayne Barnett	Ex-Parte
Lanissa Melton v. Rachel Hart, Kristie Harjo, Tina Deo & Stacy Jack	Ex-Parte
Paige Jack v. Rachel Hart, Kristie Harjo, Tina Deo & Stacy Jack	Ex-Parte
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Devona Scott	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Shannan Roberts	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. James Anderson	Ct. 1: Possession of illegal Drugs
MCN v. Deann Watashe	Ct. 1: Assault
Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Vernon Scott	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Traffic:	
MCN v. Anthony Ragsdale	Trespassing
MCN v. Emily Alfred	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brandon Barnhart	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brandon Barnhart	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Mark Jones	Expired Tag
MCN v. Mark Jones	DUS
MCN v. Mark Jones	Trespassing
MCN v. Vernon Scott	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Vernon Scott	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
MCN v. Christopher Rychel	No Insurance
MCN v. Christopher Rychel	Expired Tag
MCN v. Perry Vessel	DUS
MCN v. Marcus Strong	Expired Tag
MCN v. Darrel Cunningham	No Insurance
MCN v. Darrel Cunningham	Expired Tag
MCN v. Darrel Cunningham	DUS
MCN v. Frank Hollingshed	No Insurance
MCN v. Frank Hollingshed	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Edward McDonald	DUS
MCN v. Jorge Pena	No Driver's License

MCN v. Joseph Barr
MCN v. Travis Sellers
MCN v. Richard Goswick
MCN v. Jeremy Jacobs
MCN v. Jeremy Jacobs
MCN v. Maurice Friday
MCN v. Roberta Vaughn
MCN v. Roy Foster
MCN v. Roy Foster
MCN v. Roy Foster
MCN v. Marcus Popa
MCN v. Marcus Popa
MCN v. Richard Irvin
MCN v. Joel Montgomery
MCN v. Joel Montgomery
MCN v. Joel Montgomery
MCN v. Karen Rowen
MCN v. Karen Rowen
MCN v. Zulma Alvarez
MCN v. Zulma Alvarez
MCN v. Zulma Alvarez
MCN v. Kimberly Blackman
MCN v. Jerry Lawrence
MCN v. Jerry Lawrence
MCN v. Leah Morgan
MCN v. Jasmine Meyers
MCN v. Consuelo Deane
MCN v. Ann Marie Smith
MCN v. Peter Farneti
MCN v. Gregory Holsey
MCN v. Robert Carbaugh
MCN v. Pearlene Jewell
MCN v. Pearlene Jewell
MCN v. Earnest Pennington
MCN v. Robert Lester
MCN v. Blake Basore
MCN v. William Perneau
MCN v. Timothy Beavers
MCN v. Mitchell Lerch
MCN v. William Burklin
MCN v. Anthony Payne
MCN v. David Wells
MCN v. Lawren Pryor
MCN v. Robert Myers
MCN v. Robert Myers
MCN v. Sarah Hathcoat
MCN v. Clinton Ward
MCN v. Jesse Gourd
MCN v. Jesse Gourd
MCN v. Wessell English
MCN v. Gist Julious
MCN v. Tariq Shoubaki
MCN v. Tariq Shoubaki
MCN v. Ina Lolley
MCN v. Sandra Raney
MCN v. Jonathan Pannebaker

No Insurance
No Insurance
Driving w/out Valid Driver's License
No Insurance
DUS
Trespassing
DUS
No Insurance
Expired Tag
DUS
Expired Tag
No Insurance
Possession of Illegal Drugs
Paraphernalia
Expired Tag
No Driver's License
Possession of Illegal Drug
Paraphernalia
Expired Tag
No Insurance
No Insurance
No Tag
No Driver's License
DUS
Expired Tag
No Driver's License
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
DUS
Expired Tag
No Valid Insurance
Disorderly Conduct
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
Larceny
Possession of Illegal Drugs
Disorderly Conduct
Public Intoxication
Tresspass
Disorderly Conduct
Possession of Illegal Liquor
Improper Backing, and Failing to Stop
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
Possession of Marijuana
Expired Tag
Disorderly Conduct
DUS
No Insurance
DUS
DUS
DUS
No Valid Insurance
No Insurance
Failed to Start, Turn, Stop with out Regard to Safety
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land

Muscogee Nation
NEWS
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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of the Speaker

HE(N)SCI !!!

The filing period is over and the candidates for the various offices have been determined. Let the races begin! Past Muscogee (Creek) Nation elections have been hard on families, employees and the candidates' families. Families and households have been known to split in the support of candidates. Churches and Ceremonial Grounds are split in their support, as well; each has their favorite(s) to support.

The election season brings with it rumors of terminations of employees if so and so isn't kept in office or elected. According to the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Deputy Directors must be confirmed or reconfirmed by the National Council regardless of who is elected. The vast majority of our em-



Tiger

ployees should not be worried of their positions regardless of the outcome of any elections. If such a rumor is being circulated at the present time or meetings are being held to use it as an intimidation factor, people in charge should put an immediate halt to such activities. Such practice may have been in the past, but laws have been adapted to keep such things from happening.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is very unique in its elections. Some tribal elections are entirely by the absentee votes while others are by precinct voting. In the Muscogee (Creek) Nation if you are a tribal member and registered to vote regardless where you live, exercise your right to vote.

I want to thank the California Muscogee Creek Association for their hospitality during our recent visit. This visit was my third gathering and I have enjoyed each visit. I believe the venue at the Native American Methodist Church in Anaheim was a perfect setting. Not as many tribal members during this last visit but enjoyed the opportunity to have dialogue with some new faces.

I want to report that 4 Love of the Game sports camps that were held in July was great. The softball camp for girls with instruction from the University of Oklahoma softball team members was received well by our kids. To get tips on the various facets of the game from members of a team that is recognized nationally among the best annually in College softball was very impressive. The Day of Champions Football Camp was also successful. Josh Heupel and his father put together an impressive staff of former Sooner greats as instructors for the camp held in Dewar. Past Butkus Award winner and former All American Rock Calmus was the leader among camp instructors. Each camper received some excellent instruction and was well attended. I have received a number of phone calls from parents in relaying their appreciation for the appropriations for their children to attend the camps.

In closing, best wishes and good luck to all candidates and I again want to encourage everyone to vote.

Thank you for your words of encouragement and until next month!

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Women's Caucus

by Rita Williams

The First Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit" will be held May 31, 2007. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council Women's Caucus took the lead in sponsoring legislation that provided for this citizens' learning opportunity.

Those who sponsored this event were, Representatives Sylvanna Caldwell, Cherrah Quiett, Paula Willits, Johnnie Green, Lena Wind and Shirlene Ade.

The diabetes program staff worked closely with the Women's Caucus to plan this event.

Members of the planning committee are Women's Caucus members, Cherrah Quiett, Sylvanna Caldwell, Johnnie Green, and Co-Chair, Paula Willits. Diabetes Program Staff, Johnnie Brasuell, Co-Chair, Gloria Moore, Sharon Iverson and Scott Robison.

WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP AND WHY TEACH IT?

Citizenship education is about enabling citizens to make their own decisions and to take responsibility for their own lives and their communities. It is not about trying to fit everyone into the same mold, or creating the 'model,' or 'good' citizen.

WHAT IS "CITIZENSHIP"?

The term 'citizenship' has several different meanings:

A legal and political status: In its simplest meaning, "citizenship" is used to refer the status of being a citizen - that is, to being a member of a particular political community or state. Citizenship brings with it certain rights and responsibilities that are defined in law, such as the right to vote, the responsibility to pay tax and so on.

Active citizenship: Citizenship in this sense is applied to a wide range activities - from voting in elections and standing for political office to taking an interest in politics and current affairs. It refers not only to rights and responsibilities laid down by law, but also to general forms of behavior -social and moral-which societies expect of their citizens.

WHY TEACH CITIZENSHIP?

VOTER EDUCATION CRITICAL TO CITIZENS

Durham Herald Sun

Chris Shaw/Tara Purohit

During election year there is a lot of stage-managing and spinning that surrounds political campaigns and its hard for voters to see the candidates as they are void of all the clutter. One may hear candidates' answer on an issue many times, but where does the candidate really stand? How are voters expected to participate in a system that is becoming increasingly inaccessible and find the information necessary to make informed decisions?

There is a lack of attention paid to voter education at the state, national and tribal level. Often voters don't know the issues or where to turn for reliable information about elections. In 2002 HAVA (Help America Vote Act) was passed at the federal level. But as part of its implementation, it required states to pass plan explaining how they would comply with the federal legislation. Areas of compliance include voter identification, provisional balloting and creating a voter education program. HAVA provided an impetus for states to develop a comprehensive voter education program.

At the national level, The Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) sponsors stilted bi-partisan press conferences that are promoted as debates. There are no critical discussions of many issues of national importance with specific local relevance. Voter education if vital importance to the health of our

The principal justification for citizenship education derives from the nature of democracy. Democracies need active, informed and responsible citizens - citizens who are willing and able to take responsibility for themselves and their communities and contribute to the political process.

WHAT IS THE AIM OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION?

Wherever it occurs, citizenship education has the same basic aims and purposes. It is education for citizenship-that is, education which aims to help people learn how to become active, informed and responsible citizens. More specifically, it aims to prepare them for life as citizens of a democracy.

Democracies depend upon citizens who, among other things are:

- aware of their rights and responsibilities as citizens
- informed about the social and political world
- concerned about the welfare of others
- articulate in their opinions and arguments
- capable of having an influence on the world
- active in their communities
- responsible in how they act as citizens

democracy. As the political forums that reach the most people, the presidential debates need to be sponsored by an organization that takes voter education seriously. Voter education is too important to play a secondary role in the debates.

"GEARING UP FOR 2008, "NATIVE VOTE CAMPAIGN"

Rita Williams, Liason

Last year, NCAI prepared tribes for the 2006 "Get Out The Vote." Few tribes in Oklahoma participated and networked together to do a grassroots campaign to register people to vote. These tribes rallied together and called themselves "Native Vote United" to show unity among Oklahoma tribes. Many hours and work went into this voter initiative. In July , 2007 those tribes that participated in the 2006 elections are gearing up again for the 2008 elections. They met with some tribal leaders and echoed the very same lack of attention from tribes on citizens voter education. While we were out in the field registering people to vote, they were asking, " who to vote for, and what the issues were." Most importantly at the State and National elections, tribal leaders who know what the stakes are need to be developing voter education on those candidates. Present real issues and facts and they will decide. If tribes want their people to get involved in the democratic process, give them something to go for.

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

APPLICANT:	KEMMERER COMPANY INC.)	
)	
RELIEF SOUGHT:	POOLING	)	CAUSE C.D. NO. 200704057-T
)	
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:)	
)	
	SW/4 SW/4 OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, CREEK COUNTY, OKLAHOMA.)	
)	
AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING)	

STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO: Alex Porter, ½ Creek NE, Will Porter, ½ Creek NE, Wynne Porter ½ Creek NE, Alex Porter, Will Porter and Wynne Porter/c/o Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Alex Porter, Will Porter and Wynne Porter/c/o The Area Director/ Muskogee Area Office, Unknown heirs of Freeling Alex Porter, FB Creek NE, sole heir of Benjamin Porter, FB Creek NB-401, and if the above named individual is deceased, then the unknown heirs, executor, administrators, devisees, trustees, and assigns, both immediate and remote, of such deceased individual; if any of the above named parties designated as executor is not acting in such capacity as executor, then the unknown successor or successors to such party as executor; and all other persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and particularly in Creek County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant, Kemmerer Company, Inc., has filed an Application in this cause requesting the Corporation Commission of Oklahoma to enter an Order pooling the interests of the oil and gas owners, and adjudicating the rights and equities in connection with the 40 acre drilling and spacing unit that has been established by Oklahoma Corporation Commission Order Nos. 159613 and 165860 for the Peru, Booch, Union Valley, Skinner, Red Fork, Bartlesville, Dutcher, Wilcox, Gilcrease and Cromwell common sources of supply underlying the unit comprised of the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 36, Township 14 North, Range 9 East, Creek County, Oklahoma. The interest of the oil and gas owners involved herein and the rights and equities in respect thereto are to be pooled and adjudicated pursuant to 52 O.S. §87.1 on the basis of the drilling and spacing units covered hereby. The Application in this cause states that Applicant has proposed the development of the Peru, Booch, Union Valley, Skinner, Red Fork, Bartlesville, Dutcher, Wilcox, Gilcrease and Cromwell common sources of supply in the drilling and spacing unit involved herein under a plan of development and has proposed to commence such plan by development of an initial well in the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 36, Township 14 North, Range 9 East, Creek County, Oklahoma and that Applicant has been unable to reach an agreement with the owners of the right to drill named as Respondents herein with respect to such proposed plan of development of the drilling and spacing unit and separate common sources of supply covered thereby.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Application in this cause requests that Applicant, Kemmerer Company, Inc. or some other party recommended by Applicant be designated as Operator of the drilling and spacing units and separate common source of supply involved herein, including the proposed initial well under Applicant's proposed plan of development of such units. Further, at the time of hearing, the Applicant will request one (1) year from the date of the order in which to commence **operations based on rig availability.**

IT IS ORDERED that this Cause be referred to an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence, and reporting the findings and recommendations to the Commission.

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, 440 S. Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m. on the 4th day of September, 2007, and that this notice and order be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact the Applicant or Applicant's attorney, prior to the hearing date, and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action, contact Craig Kemmerer of Kemmerer Company, Inc., 7310 South Yale, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74136, (918) 607-2024, or Lee I. Levinson, Attorney at Law, 1743 E. 71st Street, Southbridge Office Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74136, (918) 492-4433.

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA

JEFF CLOUD, CHAIRMAN

BOB ANTHONY, COMMISSIONER

JIM ROTH, COMMISSIONER

DONE AND PERFORMED this 7th day of August, 2007.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

PEGGY MITCHELL, COMMISSION SECRETARY

Schumacher Funeral Home

Ron Schumacher is Announcing
Two new additions to our staff with over
80 years of combined experience to better serve you
Bob McLemore and Patty Fletcher



Honoring Muscogee Creek Traditions
130 W. 8th St. Bristow, OK 74010 918.367.2244
1321 W. Columbia Okemah, OK 74859 918.623.1133
Two Locations to serve your needs:
B.I.A. & Tribal Burial Funds may
include a complete Funeral Service

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE JUNE 19, EMERGENCY SESSION.

JUNE 19, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENTS WERE: REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED **LARRY BIBLE**, AND **ROBERT JONES**. REPRESENTATIVES ON TRAVEL STATUS ARE: **BILL FIFE**, **JEFF FIFE** AND **THOMAS YAHOLA**. **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**
REPRESENTATIVE **DUKE HARJO** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (17-0-0) NCA 07-173, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A CREEK CITIZEN TO TRAVEL WITH HER SON TO CANCER TREATMENT OF AMERICA IN CHICAGO, IL SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE (\$2,500.00);

- APPROVED (17-2-0) NCA 07-167, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON CONTEMPT GENERALLY, PUNISHMENT FOR DIRECT AND INDIRECT CONTEMPT; INDIRECT CONTEMPT-PROCEEDINGS SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

VOTING NO WERE: **ANTHONY NOTARO** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**;

- APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 07-168, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DECLARING THE RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL A CIVIL RIGHT SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

JUNE 30, REGULAR SESSION

EXCUSED ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY BIBLE**, **JOHNNIE GREENE** AND **ROBERT JONES**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-051, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ESTABLISHING A CONSULTATION PROCESS WITH THE NATION EVERY TIME A FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND/OR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECT AFFECTS A NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORICAL OR BURIAL SITE WITHIN AN AREA OF THE STATE OF TEXAS FOR WHICH THE NATION HAS CONCERNS FOR HISTORIC PROPERTIES SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-055, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, GEORGIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FORMAL PROCEDURES FOR CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION, PROTECTION OF INFORMATION, AND STEWARDSHIP OF CULTURAL RESOURCES THAT MAY BE FOUND AT MARINE COPRS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, GEORGIA SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-063, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH EAST CENTRAL OKLAHOMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., FOR ELECTRIC SERVICES AT THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR-064, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC., BUSINESS EDITION CUSTOMER AGREEMENT FOR INTERNET SERVICE TO THE WILSON CHARTERED INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-069, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MSUCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY SYSTEM SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-070, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

AUTHORIZING THE OKMULGEE INDIAN HEALTH CENTER TO USE THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO PLACE ON A COOKBOOK TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-071, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING TR 07-038 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO TRACK SEX OFFENDERS LIVING ON MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION INDIAN COUNTRY) SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (13-9-0) NCA 07-143, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF “KING COAL DEPOT” A MUSEUM AND TOURIST ATTRACTION LOCATED IN HENRYETTA, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$224,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT**, **ANTHONY NOTARO**, **PETE BEAVER**, **BILL FIFE**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JEFF FIFE**, **BO JOHNSON**, **JAMES JENNINGS** AND **SHIRLENE ADE**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-150, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) 2007 TRIBAL AWARD AND REQUIRED TRIBAL MATCH FOR THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE SPONSOR: SYLVANNA CALDWELL (\$22,712.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-151, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING A TITLE IV-B SUBPART 2 (“PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES”) GRANT AND REQUIRED TRIBAL MATCH FOR THE CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$115,023.75);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-152, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO LIBERTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THEIR HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM RENOVATION PROJECT SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE; CO-SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$33,000.00);

- APPROVED (19-2-1) NCA 07-154, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 7 ESTABLISH A STIPEND FOR MEMBERS OF THE CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

VOTING NO WERE: **RON CLEGHORN** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **PAULA WILLITS**;

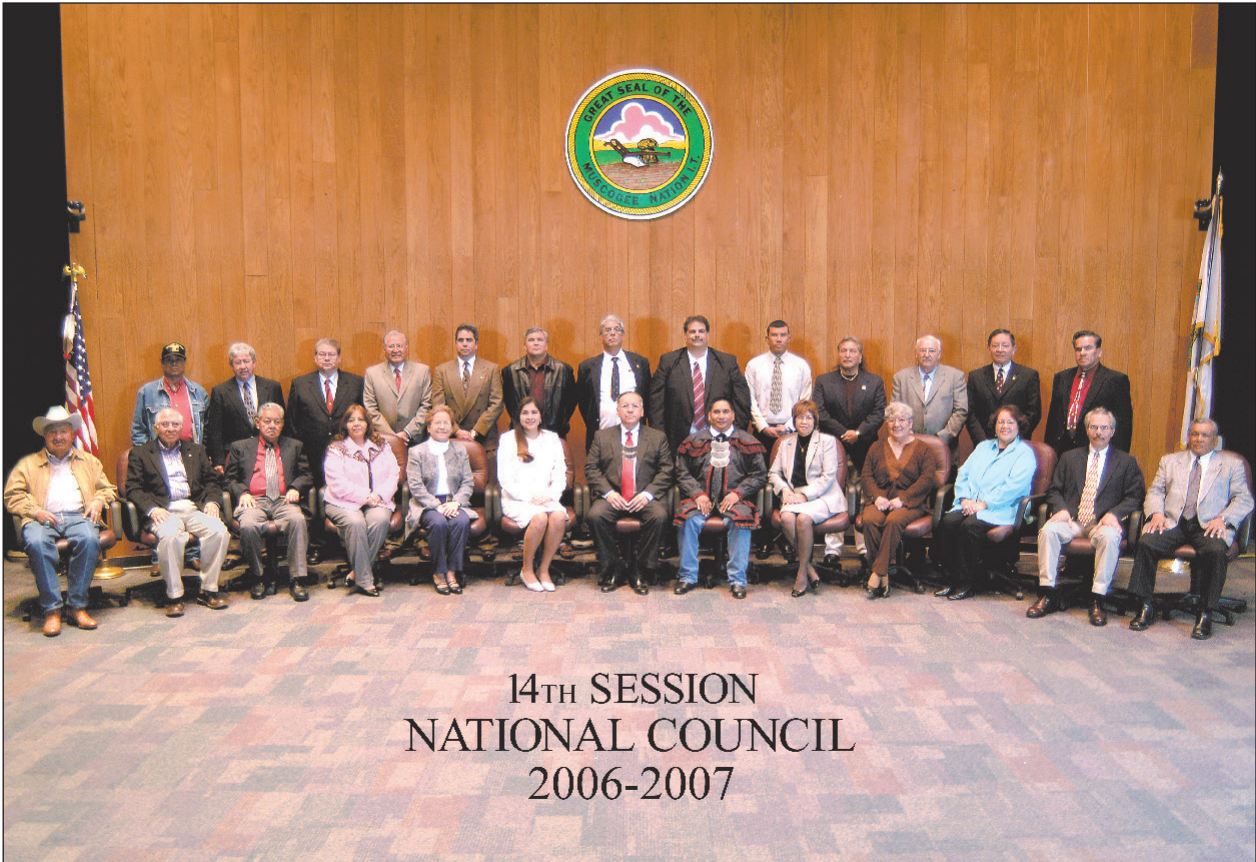
- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-156, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE 2006 INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT FUNDS AND APPROVING THE BUDGET SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-157, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER TO REPLENISH THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT FUND SPONSOR: BILL FIFE; CO SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$50,000.00);

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-1) NCA 07-159, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-132 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A LIQUOR AND BEVERAGE CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, “TAXATION AND REVENUE,” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION), AS AMENDED BY NCA 06-222 SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

ABSTAIN WERE: **TOM PICKERING**;

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (22-0-0) NCA 07-161, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ALABAMA-COUSHATTA BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FELLOWSHIP HALL (\$52,000.00);



14TH SESSION
NATIONAL COUNCIL
2006-2007

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-162, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-185 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CLARIFYING THE POSITION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MUSCOGEE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITE OF HICKORY GROUND NEAR WETUMPKA, ALABAMA AND AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE COST OF NECESSARY MEASURES REQUIRED TO SECURE AND PROTECT THE SITE AND/OR CAUSE COMMERCIAL AND GAMING ACTIVITY TO CEASE) SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE (\$30,000.00);

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (19-3-0) NCA 07-163, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO CONSTRUCT AND EQUIP A FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR LITTLE CUSSETAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. CLEGHORN; B. JOHNSON; T. NOTARO; J. FIFE; T. SCOTT (\$189,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, **RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-165, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO “FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME” ORGANIZATION FOR DAY OF CHAMPIONS FOOTBALL AND SOFTBALL CAMPS SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$43,625.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-166, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DUSTIN INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$27,883.00);

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (17-5-0) NCA 07-170, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-

TION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4 ENTITLED “LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT” SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO**, **LENA WIND**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JEFF FIFE** AND **THOMAS YAHOLA**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-172, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO OKMULGEE INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH AND CHURCH OF THE TRUE VINE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE (\$40,383.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-174, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER;

- APPROVED (18-4-0) NCA 07-177, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEER SPONSORSHIP FOR THE 2007 NATIONAL UNITY CONFERENCE JULY 6-10, 2007 IN OKLAHOMA CITY SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$25,000.00);

voting no were: **Sylvanna Caldwell**, **Shirlene Ade**, **Cherrah Quiett** and **Paula Willits**;

- APPROVED (21-0-1) NCA 07-179, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 14, ENTITLED “CRIME AND PUNISHMENTS” SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR(S): J. FIFE; D. HARJO;

ABSTAIN WERE: **BO JOHNSON**.

JULY 12, EMERGENCY SESSION
VETO MESSAGE:

- VETO OVERRIDE (18-8-0) NCA 07-167, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON CEN-

TEMPT GENERALLY, PUNISHMENT FOR DIRECT AND INDIRECT CONTEMPT; INDIRECT CONTEMPTS-PROCEEDINGS”;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, **ANTHONY NOTARO**, **ROBERT JONES**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JAMES JENNINGS**, **LARRY BIBLE**, **CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

- VETO OVERRIDE (23-3-0) NCA 07-168, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DECLARING THE RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL A CIVIL RIGHT;

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES**, **KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-180, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A GIFTED AND EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETE TO PARTICIPATE IN A NATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT IN ELGIN, ILLINOIS;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-185, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MCINTOSH TUMBLERS TO COMPLETE IN THE 2007 AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION JUNIOR OLYMPIC GAMES;

- APPROVED ((25-0-0) NCA 07-190, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE ELECTION BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR LEGAL COUNSEL.



Tulsa Casino Update



Nicholas Howk/MNN



Progress Being Made

Progress on the new Tulsa Casino is moving right along. The rain in June caused a small delay, but now contractors are able work. This month part of the concrete was poured for the underground parking garage, the upper decks have been poured and some interior walls are starting to go up. Flintco and other sub-contractors are working long hours and weekends, some up to 70 hours-a-week, to make up for lost time during the rain.

Nicholas Howk/MNN

Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa Earns Three Prestigious Romero Awards Recognizing Excellence in Casino Marketing

Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa was recognized as the recipient of three Romero Awards at a special awards breakfast at the fourth annual Casino Marketing Conference on July 19, 2007 at Paris Las Vegas.

The casino earned a Gold Romero in the "E-mail Marketing" category for large casinos with its 2006 Tulsa State Fair - Swipe in to Win E-mail Extravaganza. Fair guests entered their information at the casino's booth electronically via kiosks, designed to increase the casino's e-mail database, conduct a fact-finding survey, and entice guests to redeem their guaranteed prize vouchers at the casino. The kiosks were then brought back into the casino for the remainder of the month for a similar on-floor promotion. The promotion generated an additional 3,400 e-mail addresses to the database in October 2006.

The casino's first annual Native Fall Music Fest in November 2006 earned a Silver Romero award in the "Public Relations" category for large casinos. The one-of-a-kind three day festival featured the musical talents of 16 national and lo-

cal Native American groups and offered the Tulsa community a place to celebrate the Native American culture and traditions during Native American Month. The successful Native Fall Music Fest is anticipated to become an annual event, with preparation well underway for the 2007 event in November.

The casino also took home a Silver Romero award in the "Web Site Marketing" category for large casinos with its MySpace @ Midnight promotion. The casino was the first in the Tulsa market to use the popular online tool to target a younger demographic and advertise to the nearly 200 million members of the site at no cost. By awarding customers for interacting with the casino online by printing out their page for extra entries, the casino developed a unique way to attract customers to the casino.

The Romero Awards are named after casino marketing pioneer and author John Romero and honor casinos throughout the gaming world that best fulfill the spirit of Romero's 45-year crusade for effective, measurable and accountable casino

marketing expenditures.

The expert judging panel, chaired by John Romero himself, consisted of four casino marketing professionals with over 100 years of combined experience in the field. Diamond, Gold, Silver, and Honorable Mention winners were selected from nominations over a diverse group of international companies in a variety of important marketing categories.

Creek Nation Casino (CNC) - Tulsa was awarded the prestigious Diamond Award last year in the Casino Floor Promotion category for small/mid-size casinos for its \$250,000 American Dream promotion. The casino moved up to the large casino category for the 2007 awards, after an expansion increased the facility's size to include over 1,000 gaming machines.

About Creek Nation Casino – Tulsa

CNC is one of Oklahoma's leading Indian gaming facilities and is an economic development project of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma. The casino opened in 1984 along the banks of the Arkansas River and was the first high-stakes

Indian bingo establishment in the state of Oklahoma. Today, CNC - Tulsa offers a unique brand of entertainment with an exciting array of gaming, featuring poker, blackjack and over 1,500 Class II and Class

III machines, as well as exciting promotions and events, huge cash payouts and excellent customer service. The newly expanded and renovated casino features a full service restaurant, a prestigious High Stakes Room, and non-smoking areas for all types of gaming. CNC - Tulsa is open 24 hours, seven days a week and offers



left to right: Kyle Lee, Alison Nichols, Paul Moore, Phil Daugherty, Miguel Ewing, Jenny Cross, Bre Pierce, Jason George, Amy Brown, Darrell Loyd.

complimentary valet parking.

An active community partner, CNC - Tulsa provides a positive economic impact for Tulsa and surrounding towns, with over 650 employees. Proceeds from gaming operations help to fund a variety of MCN service programs such as housing, education, elderly assistance and health care.

Did You Know?

by Thompson Gouge
Public Relations Representative

Hensci my name is Thompson "Gee-bon" Gouge, and I am the new Public Relations Representative for the Muscogee Nation. I am the son of Thompson and Lutie Gouge, and Grandson of Woodrow Gouge and Rhoda Fields. I am of the Raccoon clan and belong to Kialegee Tribal Town. It has always been a pleasure to work close with my tribal people. I developed the desire to work with tribal citizens while I was employed with Robert Simons Funeral Home. I believe God has opened many doors of opportunity with the tribe and I am honored.

My duty to the Muscogee Nation is to promote the events taking place within the Nation by managing outside communication. The marketing of our casinos is spectacular and it seems to be the only promotion of the Tribe. Great things are happening not only at the Capitol Complex but throughout all our Indian communities. In order to create and maintain a positive image of the tribe I plan to network with other outside entities and promote the tribe by news releases, and commercials. The heartbeat of this tribe is YOU the Creek citizen, and the people need to be represented well. These are only a few avenues and tools which will help promote the tribe.

I have noticed that the communities that I have visited have taken upon themselves to reach out to their own communities. Some of the things that I have noticed are that all our Indian Communities take pride in what they accomplish. The first community that I had a chance to visit was the Holdenville Indian Community. The Holdenville Com-

munity is doing great things for their tribal citizens and for the Holdenville community itself. Some of the accomplishments that the Community is doing are that they hire the youth of the community to mow the elderly citizens grass. This is a great thing for our elderly people in that area with no younger family to help with chores. It has been real difficult with the rain that has been going on throughout all of Eastern Oklahoma.

Ester Morgan of the Holdenville Community said, "Since the Office of Childcare has a school clothing program and the JOM Program helps distribute the school supplies. We wanted to help in another way so we had volunteer hair stylists come to the community center and give free hair cuts"

This was my first visit to a Community Center during lunch and might I say that the Elderly Nutrition Center has Grade "A" cooking. I had a wonderful time at the Holdenville Community Center visiting with people that had congregated to eat lunch. I noticed some of the concerns of our citizens regarding employment within surrounding areas. The employment for this general area is very low since some of the factories around have shut down, like a big employer in that area which was Wrangler. This area of concern has been looked into and I believe plans are in the process of being made.

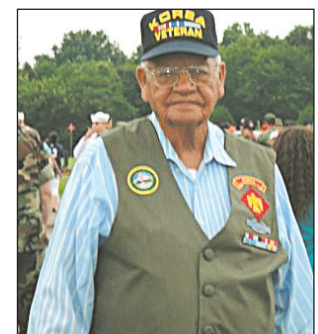
The Holdenville Casino is also under construction. This casino will be a state of the art casino that will help bring revenue to the community. Once the casino is set and running this will also bring employment to the tribal citizens of the community. We have so many expansion projects that are in the process of being constructed through-

out this nation. Bristow Casino, Duck Creek Casino, Checotah Casino and other projects that are under construction that we are also anticipating. The Tulsa casino is on a rise of being developed as well as a Hotel that will be built south of the casino. This Hotel and Casino will be state of the art buildings that are being constructed by FLINTCO a Native American owned company that has received many awards for their complete projects.

One project in particular is the Koweta Indian Health Center which is located in Coweta, Oklahoma. If you have never been to Koweta Indian Health Center, may suggest to please visit our great facility. You will find that this facility is wonderful place to receive shots and to get teeth pulled. I couldn't resist myself, so I had to say it!

The Housing Authority has been progressing in construction of housing projects. Just recently our tribe has signed approximately 27 contracts for the month of July to begin construction. I am very proud of a area that has been kicking it into high gear which is the Alternative Housing. I had the chance to actually visit an owner key reception in Wetumka, Okla. This was a very touching moment when I watched an elder of our tribe receiving keys to their brand new home after having lived in a home that was uninhabitable.

Although the rain hindered Veterans Parade and Dedication of the New constructed Pentagon Building, it was a memorable event. Mr. Ken Davis is our Director of Veterans Affairs for the Muscogee Creek Nation and is very compassionate to Creek Veterans. The quote that really appreciate is "They have protected us and now it is our to protect them". I believe that the Veterans Affair is a vital part of our Nation.



Mr. Eugene Thomas was one of many Veterans in attendance at the Veterans Dedication Ceremony.

Just to see Ken Davis on the complex ground listening attentively to our veterans needs lets me know that he is taking care of business. Funding and benefits were found through this program for our Veterans. If you are Veteran out there, I would come to the complex and visit with Mr. Ken Davis.

The Transit Department has recently purchased a charter bus for the Muscogee Creek Nation to help transport people where ever they need to go. This bus has already been on many trips, busing our tribal people to various states.

Does the Transit Department charge to use the bus? Well I'm glad you asked that question. The

Department works is that you would reimburse all cost of the trip like fuel and driver. Just the other day Mr. Mike Flud, Chief of Staff, mentioned that he had noticed a group of children were boarding the bus to go on trip and he said he was so proud to see our Tribal chartered bus with our seal and logo transferring children. This is just a taste of what the transit has to offer.

The California trip was a great mission that the tribe went on. Attending the gathering were several members of the various departments within the tribe. There are a few programs that people that live outside the Creek Nation territorial boundaries can benefit from. This area is considered the 9th District.

The people still have a voice in the 9th District whether they may live in Oklahoma City, Dallas or California. No matter what, they are still Muscogee Citizens.

I had the pleasure of meeting new faces that had connections back home here in the Henryetta, Wilson and Eufaula Communities. It was so great to see how proud and how people were eager to learn more about our culture. I can remember the times that my father would complain about the tribe not able help him, a Creek full blood, because he lived all the way in Anadarko; which is out of the Creek Nation boundary. Now I am glad that the Tribe has come so far to help our tribal members that live outside our territorial boundaries.

I know I haven't covered all of what the Muscogee Nation has to offer, but I will be traveling around to each community and many events that maybe taking place throughout this nation. Plus, there are many more programs that I haven't touched as well. In the future I will be promoting the Emergency Management Program that has been busy help all our communities with disaster relief during the ice storm and in recent flooding. I believe that we are progressing in the right direction as a Nation. The National Council is also a very vital part of this nation as well as our Judicial Branch. Without the Office of the Principal Chief and the National Council, these programs would not exist. I would like to give gratitude to the people who are making a difference in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by giving their all to help make a better Nation. We Are The Muscogee (Creek) Nation!



Muscogee Nation Transit Charter Bus.



Holdenville Casino that is under construction.

HEALTH

From the Desk of the CEO

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted by Judy Aaron, Chief Executive Officer

As a part of our efforts to become more sensitive to the needs of our patients the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is in the process of developing our Patient Advocacy Program. Patient Advocacy is more than receiving complaints but is a proactive effort to make the Health System user-friendly.

We want our patients to be able to maneuver through a Health System designed to meet the needs of our patients. Ms. Etta Conner who is the Patient Advocate for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is working to develop a Patient Advocacy Committee and ways of measuring how well we treat our patients in the area of customer service.

The Health System welcomes any comments you may have to help us provide a caring atmosphere for you, the patient.

As our Health System begins to grow a goal we are striving for is to implement more current electronic technology.

Recently we were able to add a ScriptPro to the Pharmacy at the Sapulpa Indian Health Center, which is

an automated medication refill system. The ScriptPro allows our Pharmacists to continue doing other functions such as



Judy Aaron

patient education, chart review or working with the physicians while ScriptPro is beginning to fill the prescriptions. You may have noticed the labeling has patient safety features such as a larger printer and various stickers to provide as much information as possible for you.

Examples are: if you should take your medication with food, or a picture of the medication is on the bottle. Many

times to save on cost, a medication may change to a generic form resulting in a different pill being dispensed. If you happen to notice your medication looks different you can refer to your medication bottle to confirm the picture matches up with what is contained in the bottle.

The ScriptPro is able to run approximately 100 prescriptions per hour with accuracy, contributing further to patient safety. This is one of the many ways the Health System is working to improve our efficiency while maintaining patient safety to serve you better.

If you have ideas or comments to assist us in improving our services, or even a story of how our staff has done a great job, please contact your local Health System Administrator, or our Patient Advocate, Ms. Conner.

I would also appreciate hearing any suggestions you may have about our Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. You may contact Ms. Conner or myself at 918-756-4443. Thank you for allowing the Health System the pleasure of serving you.

DOCTOR's NOTE

Greater Benefits for Veterans

Submitted by Zack Anderson MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer

Recently the Health Resources & Services Administration has presented one of only 10 grants to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System.

This Rural Health Network Development Planning grant will be the beginning of creating greater benefits for the Native American Veterans, who have served so honorably for our Nation, from the Muscogee and Seminole Nations' Jurisdictional areas.

The grant is creating an opportunity for the Muskogee Veterans Health Administration Department of Minority Affairs, the Seminole Nation, along with the MCNHS to team together to plan and develop in the future a health network that would benefit our Veterans.

Goals include identifying at least 100 Veterans currently not



Zack Anderson

enrolled with the VA, and eventually help them through the process so they will start receiving VA benefits.

The opportunity will allow the Veteran to continue their care in the clinic of their choice with the ability to be referred to the VA for specialty clinics. Whether it is urology or cardiology, it will open doors that previously were not available for the Veterans.

This is just another example of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System wanting the very best for it Veterans. This new Health Network has teamed together for one common concern, the health of the Veteran.

All of them gave some and some gave all for the way of life we currently have.

We are blessed to have so many who played a part in changing history or being part of history in some way. MVTO

MaryAnn Kane honored and recognized by National Council

Ron Cleghorn, Tulsa District Representative

OKMULGEE — Mary Ann Kane performed admirably in her job as a dispatcher and transporter for the Community Health Representative (C.H.R.) Program in Okmulgee for 12 years.

At it's quarterly session on July 28, the National Council recognized and honored her for the outstanding dedication she displayed in her C.H.R. duties and responsibilities.



Mary Ann Kane

Cyndi Gilks, C.H.R. Manger and Jeff Fife, Okmulgee District Representative, spoke of her work ethic as an employee of the Creek Nation Health System.

They were most generous in their praise. George Tiger, National Council Speaker, presented Mrs. Kane with a certificate honoring her service as a C.H.R.

She was also given a plaque for a achievement.

And official National Council ballpoint pen and lapel pen were also presented to Mrs. Kane.

As the ceremony concluded, the National Council and the audience gave her a standing ovation and well deserved round of applause.

HEALTHNOTES

CPR, First Aid, and AED Training

OKMULGEE — The classes for August have been scheduled for Wednesday, August 29th and Thursday, August 30th.

The classes for September have been scheduled for Wednesday, September 26th and Thursday, September 27th. Classes will be held from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm in the Human Development Building.

Each person will be certified through the American Heart Association for two years.

The guidelines for CPR and First

Aid have changed and anyone who has not recertified since August of 2006 will need to attend.

The class is limited to 15 each day and will be on a first come first serve basis.

The Office of Risk/Emergency Management will hold 2 classes during October and November.

There is no cost to Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees.

To register, please contact Tessie Whinery at ext. 7890 or James Nichols at ext. 7891.

The Traffic Light Healthy Eating Plan

Sharon Iverson, MS, RD/LD, Community Diabetes Dietitian, Okemah Indian Health Center

Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps are over for another year. At each camp, dietitians talked to youth about the Traffic Light Healthy Eating Plan. Like a traffic light, foods in the green group are Go Foods. Foods in the yellow group are Slow Foods. Foods in the red group are Whoa Foods. Once you have identified which group the food belongs to, you know how often and how much to eat.

Go Foods are high in nutrients, lower in fat and calories. Go Foods can be eaten anytime. Foods in this group include

- Low fat or skim milk and low fat cheese and yogurt.
- Beans, salads, vegetables (except fried ones) and fruits.
- Lean meats including chicken, turkey and fish (not fried).
- Whole grain breads, whole grain cereals, whole grain pasta.

Slow Foods are sneaky calorie foods. Many foods in this group have added fat, added sugar and more calories than Go Foods. Eat them in moderation.

- Muffins, biscuits, buttered popcorn.

- Crackers, white rice, pasta, potatoes, white bread, some cereals.

- Fruit juices, 2% milk.
- Cheese, medium fat meats.

Whoa Foods are high in fat and added sugar. Limit whoa foods to one small serving per day.

- Anything fried—fried meats, potato chips, French fries, doughnuts.
- Soda pop, candy, cake, pie, sugary cereals, sweet rolls.
- High fat meats like sausage, bacon, lunchmeats, hot dogs.
- Foods with added butter & oils, whole milk.
- Most fast foods.

The traffic light healthy eating plan can work for people of all ages. List the foods you usually eat. Decide if a food is a Go Food, a Slow Food or a Whoa Food. Look at your list. Are you eating mostly Go Foods? Are you eating a variety of Go Foods? Are there too many Slow Foods or Whoa Foods on your list? What changes can you make to eat more Go Foods? Your food choices affect your health and your weight. When you select foods to eat, make it a priority to choose more Go Foods.

Does Your Child's PE Program Measure Up?

By Scott Robison, MCN Diabetes Exercise Programs Coordinator

Does your school's physical education program help every student attain the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for them to lead healthy, active and productive lives? Many local PE programs are used as a training ground for competitive team sports such as basketball or football and this was never the purpose of quality physical education. Only 5 percent of adults over 20 year of age use team/competitive sports to stay healthy and fit and the other 95percent use some other way to exercise or no exercise at all. With this in mind, why do some many schools stress team sports in their PE programs? Physical Education plays a big role in the attitudes children have toward exercise. Parents should be the first role models for exercise, but many times a child's first role model for exercise is the PE teacher. Many adults grow up hating exercise and their childhood PE program played a role in the development of this attitude. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program "Move It! and Prevent Diabetes Program" is funded by the National Council and has been actively working to change the way PE is taught in the local schools that serve our Native children.

The following are parts of a list from NASPE (National Association for Sports and Physical Education) of what should be included in a quality school PE program.

1. Is physical education taught by a qualified teacher with a degree in physical education?
2. Do students receive formal instruction in physical education?
 - a. For a minimum of 150 minutes per week (elementary) and 225 minutes per week (middle and high)? OR
 - b. At least 3 class periods per week for all grades the entire school year.
3. Is the physical education class size about 25-30 to ensure safe, effective instruction?
4. Is there adequate equipment for every student to be active?
5. Are indoor and outdoor facilities safe and adequate (so that physical education classes need not be displaced by other

activities)?

6. Is the school following a curriculum based on state and/or national standards that are implemented appropriately in physical education? (No year around team sports)

7. Does the program provide for maximum participation for every student (e.g., inclusion, no elimination games, all students active at once, developmentally appropriate activities, etc)?

8. Do the physical education teachers regularly participate in physical education professional development activities and have memberships in related professional organizations?

9. Do the physical education teachers receive student health information and have a plan for handling emergencies?

10. Is there regular periodic evaluation by administrators of the physical education program and teacher performance?

11. Do the physical education teachers communicate with each other and parents on a frequent basis?

12. Do the physical education teachers seek feedback for improvement from students, peers and parents as a means for program evaluation and improvement?

Physical Education plays a major role in the fight against childhood obesity and diabetes. Quality physical education should make movement and activity fun and meaningful for all children regardless of their size, shape, or ability. As a Diabetes Program, we realize the importance of providing children the opportunity to feel success with physical activity and the programs we provide are based on this idea. As parents, become an advocate for quality PE for your child. If your child's school does team competitive sports year around, many children are being left out and are being raised with the idea that exercise is only for the athletes.



From Left to Right: Front Row: Jody Boyd, Administrative Officer, Dr. John Krueger, Clinic Director- CNCH, Leslea Jernigan, Quality and Performance Officer, (VA) Diane Wood AOD, (VA), Dr. Zachariah Anderson, Chief Medical Officer. Back Row: Rick O'Mara, PI Officer / Risk Manager, Kellen Palmer, Department of Minority Affairs Fellow (VA), Adam C. Walms, Medical Center Director - Jack Montgomery VA Medical Center, Lindsey Harris, Administrative Fellow (VA).

Foot care is essential for healthy living when you have diabetes

OKEMAH — People with diabetes are at greater risk for serious problems that affect the feet or legs. Nerve damage, circulation problems and infections are the main cause of foot and leg problems. High blood sugar damages the nerves. Nerve damage can result in loss of protective sensation (loss of feeling in the bottom of the feet). It can also cause damage to blood vessels and reduce blood flow to the feet. Smoking causes blood vessels to narrow and slows down the blood flow to feet.

Here are some signs of foot problems: feet may tingle, burn or hurt; the shape of feet can change over time; dry and cracked skin; toenails are thick and yellow; fungus infections occur between toes; hair loss on the toes, feet, and lower legs; decrease in ability to feel touch, heat or cold very well; the feet change in the color and temperature.

Here are some simple safeguards to be taken each day to care and protect feet: Check feet everyday: always check the bottom and between the toes, wash feet daily, if skin is dry, apply a thin coat of oil, lanolin, lotion or cream on the top and bottom. Do not apply between the toes because this moisture can let germs

grow and could cause an infection. Do not soak feet because this can dry out the skin trim toenails carefully, trim the nails squarely and do not cut into the corners. If a person cannot see well, or if nails are thick or yellowed, get them trimmed by a health care provider, protect your feet from heat and cold and always wear shoes and socks, get a health care provider to check feet during each clinic visit.

At each clinic visit take shoes and socks off so feet can be examined. A complete foot exam should be done once a year. This includes having feet checked for protective sensation, shape, condition of skin and signs of poor circulation. Special care is needed if any of these increase risk for foot problems. Ask a health care provider how to care for feet. Also ask if special shoes would be helpful.

See a health care provider for blisters, sores, ulcers, infected corns and ingrown toenails right away.

Call a Diabetes Educator at a Local Clinic with any questions or concerns.

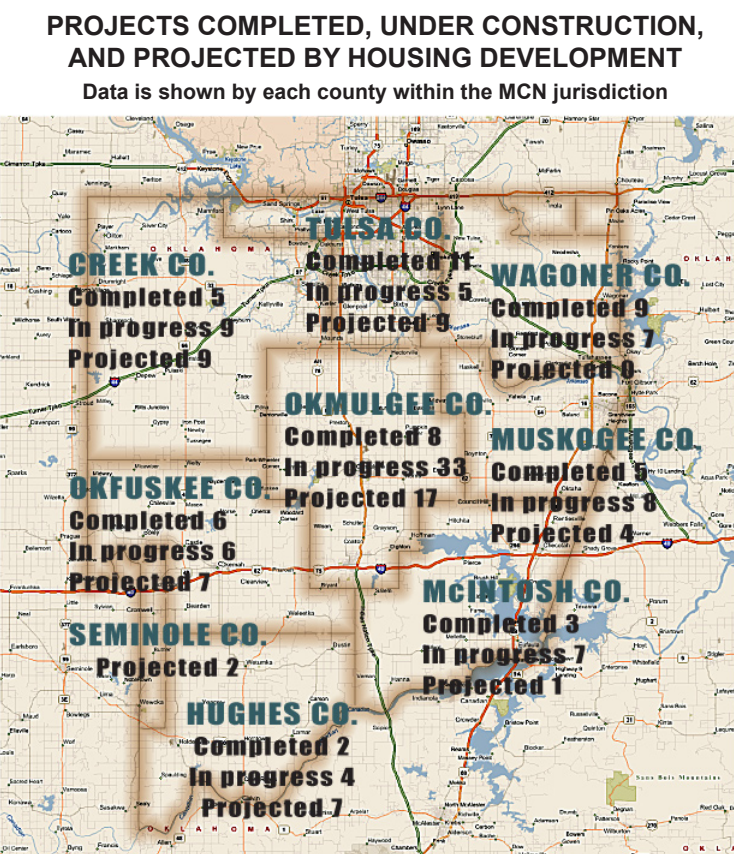
HOUSINGPROGRAMS

Housing Development Projects from October 2006 through July 2007

The Housing Development Department has provided the following numbers for completed housing contracts, current projects from October 2006 through July 31, 2007, and planned projects for the new budget.

COMPLETED CONTRACTS		
New Constructed homes	22	\$ 2,580,738
Acquisition homes	20	\$ 2,298,401
Reposessed homes	7	
Total homes completed	49	
CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT		
New Construction contracts Signed in July 07	27	\$ 3,147,426
Homes under construction	18	\$ 2,152,768
Homes under contract to begin construction	12	\$ 1,531,843
Acquisition homes under contract to buy	9	\$ 1,152,440
Elderly Housing Apartments under construction	8	\$ 1,067,000
Assigned Reposessed homes under rehab	5	
Total homes & apartments under contract	79	
Purchased sites to be assigned	10	\$ 134,941
Gift sites to be assigned	3	
Unassigned Reposessed homes to be rehabbed	2	
Applicants with donated property being served	11	
Sites being prepared to bid out for new construction	6	

UP-COMING DEVELOPMENT BUDGET PROJECTION	
New Construction Budget	\$5,000,000
Applicants for new constructed homes on purchased property	32
Applicants for new constructed homes on donated property	8
Acquisition Budget	\$2,056,168
Applicants for acquisition homes	16
Total homes projected under next budget	56



Housing progress continues
Development Manager Geri Johnson looks on as Chief Ellis signs contracts for construction of 27 homes. These homes will be built on 8 donated sites and 19 purchased sites.



Housing to open offices in Wetumka

The MCN Housing Division has purchased the former City of Wetumka Hospital building in which to place Housing and Tribal offices. The plan is to centrally locate offices in the southern region of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation jurisdiction which will make services more accessible to all the surrounding communities. The towns of Holdenville, Dustin, Weleetka, Okemah, Cromwell and Wewoka will all be within 25 miles of the offices. The building will first undergo extensive remodeling and when finished should house at least eight Tribal offices in addition to the Housing Offices.

THANK YOU TO MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Vicky,
I just wanted to say thank you to you and anyone else responsible with helping me purchase a home thru the Mortgage Assistance Program. I couldn't have done it without your help in purchasing a home. Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been so wonderful to me. I feel truly blessed.

Sincerely,
Angela Pearson

PROGRAMHIGHLIGHTS

“Good Times”
by Nicholas Howk MNN Senior Writer

Have you ever heard the saying, “When it bleeds, it leads.” This statement infers that for news to be interesting it has to involve blood. The time has come for good news to have the spotlight. This new column is entitled “Good Times” and is centered around the good things that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation does for its people. My name is Nicholas Howk and I am the “New Kid on the Block” here at the Muscogee Nation News. I have always had a vision to spread news that focused on the positive things in life. Well, in this column I will be able to do just that. I urge the readers of this column



Nicholas Howk
howk_nicholas@yahoo.com

to take a look at the world around them and help me in finding stories about the good things the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is doing for its people. The stories in the “Good Times” section may tug at your heart and give you that warm feeling inside, but these stories are more than just a good feeling. I challenge whoever is reading about these events to pay close attention to the messages and remember there are good incidents that happen around us. All we have to do is pay attention.

Fire Changes Family’s Life

BEGGS — On June 25th, 2007 a tragic event took place that changed four families lives forever. That day a fire broke out in some apartments on the main street of Beggs. The fire started at about noon and the events of the day prolonged until the evening.
The day started out like any ordinary day for Rachel Husman and her boyfriend. Husman was sitting in her living room chair with her boyfriend on the floor and her three children cleaning their rooms. Everything seemed to be going on as usual. Everything was fine until Husman noticed her boyfriends arm appeared to be orange and glowing. When she saw this she immediately knew something was wrong.
Husman quickly reacted to what she had seen and headed straight for her children’s room. When she got there, her children were just staring at the fire engulfed wall. The children kept watching the fire until Husman’s boyfriend was able to get the children out of the house. While the children were being taken outside, Husman remained inside the burning building trying to extinguish the fire. After several unsuccessful attempts Husman was forced to leave. Surrounded by fire-fighters from throughout the area, all that Husman could do was watch all that she owned burn.
Rachel Husman and her family lost everything they owned in the fire that day. When asked about how she felt that day, all Husman could say was, “I was scarred.” And she had the right to be. What does a person do in this type of situation? Everything they owned was in that apartment, including the pictures of their family. In these situations there is only so much that family can do, and then where does a person turn?
This event was a devastat-

ing time for Rachel Husman and her family, but the place they were able to turn to was the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Once again the Nation stepped in and offered a helping hand. A few days after the fire, Husman was made aware that, being a Creek citizen, she could possibly receive some assistance from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. After having stayed in a hotel and with family members for a few nights, Husman went looking for help without hesitation.
Husman made her way to the Social Services office here at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and was met with open arms. Social Services was able to provide assistance in many ways, some of which include; \$500 to help get into a rent-house, \$5000 dollars to help replace the furniture and other things that had been burned in the fire, some bills were also paid and they were given toiletries to help in restocking the new home.
In last months article I talked about looking for small instances that take place around you and finding the good in those instances. What seemed to be a devastating event for Rachel Husman, turned out to allow her to receive a blessing from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Now, I know that no amount of help could ever take away the amount of pain that Husman and her family had to go through that day, but we still need to remember that every little bit of help matters.
Don’t forget to keep your eyes out for events where the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is helping its citizens. If you have any story ideas for the Good Times column, contact me at:
nhowk@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.
Guide Lines for submitting an application are listed below:
• Child must turn three by September 01
• Application must be complete
• Tribal Citizen Card (CDIB) if applicable
• Current Income Verification
• Current Immunization Record
• Social Security Card
• Birth Certificate
• Completed Physical Exam
• Completed Dental Exam
If a child has been diagnosed with a disability, other information will be requested for completion of application.
Priority is given to children from low-income families that meet the guidelines, a minimum of 10 percent of the children have special needs. Up to 10 percent of the families in our program are above the criteria. The Muscogee Creek Nation Headstart does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex or disabilities.

Challenge Bowl looking for Volunteers
2007 challenge bowl is looking for volunteers. Anyone is welcome to volunteer. A mandatory training is scheduled for August 21st, 11 a.m. at the Green Country Technology Center. For more information contact Leona Kelley @ 732-7842.

Duck Creek Holding Election in September
Duck Creek Indian Community will hold election of office for the Board of Directors September 9, 2007 directly following regularly scheduled community

Now Accepting 2007-2008 Clothing Applications

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will be accepting applications for the 2007-2008 School Clothing Program beginning Tuesday, June 19, 2007 and ending at 5 p.m. ,Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2007.
Applications can be picked up at the Office of Child Care located on the Creek Nation complex, at any Creek Nation Child Development Center, or at any Creek Nation community center. You may also call the Office of Child Care at 1-800-205-3705, or (918) 732-7680 to have an application mailed to you.
To be eligible for the program a child shall be at least three (3) years old and enrolled in any Head Start, or Private School; at least four (4) years old and enrolled in a public school program, no higher than the 12th grade; and be an enrolled Creek citizen.
There are no income requirements. The allocation will be in the amount of \$200 per child and will be on a first come, first serve basis.
Headstart Now taking Applications
Muscogee Creek Nation Headstart is taking applications for the 2007-2008 school year. Muscogee Creek Nation Head start serves 3 to 5 year old children. The program provides a wide range of individualized services in the areas of early childhood development, education, physical health, dental health, mental health, cultural, nutrition and parent involvement.
The program operates Monday through Thursday with bus routes at 8 p.m. and at 3 p.m. The classroom time is

Tips for college freshman

REGISTRATION AND ADVISEMENT

Academic advisement is critical! Visit your advisor on a regular basis to make sure you are on track with your academic program, courses, etc.

Pay attention to deadlines! If you miss one, it could cost you – not just money but grades as well (ex. Drop/add, fee payment, course withdrawal.)

Avoid long lines and high frustration levels; use telephone or computer registration whenever possible.

Be sure to have university or college representatives sign every form dealing with selecting courses, dropping classes, etc. You may need it to defend a course selection when you apply for graduation or to prove you have dropped a class.

Save every grade report. Computers have been known to lose grades, course, credits, etc.

Periodically ask for an unofficial copy of your transcript. Be sure your records match the registrars.

Select classes based on your own academic capabilities. For example, if science is not your forte, don't take biology and chemistry in the same semester.

Be very careful about taking writing classes during shorter summer semesters. The same holds true for classes requiring larger amounts of reading.

Read the course catalog carefully. As a rule, freshman should not register for a senior or graduate level class.

Typically, freshmen are the last students to register so plan an alternative schedule prior to registration. Your first choice classes may be filled.

ADJUSTING TO COLLEGE LIFE

Realize that every college and university has its own culture which includes language, traditions, and taboos.

There are five phases of college adjustment. As a freshman, you may experience some or all of the following phases. You may experience them in any order, and some phases may repeat

- or overlap.
1. Phase one - - Fascination with the new environment.
 2. Phase two - - Severe homesickness.
 3. Phase three - - Finding fault with new surroundings; building stereotypes.
 4. Phase four - - Finding humor in your adjustment.
 5. Phase five - - Embracing the new culture; it becomes your “normal” environment.
- In order to become more comfortable with the college or university environment:
1. Learn the jargon of higher education.
 2. Realize your own preconceptions and perceptions.
 3. Actively try to make friends.
 4. Look for common ground.
 5. Look for individuals, not stereotypes.

I WISH SOMEONE HAD TOLD ME

Go to class. Class attendance really does correlate with your grades.

Communication is key - - especially when dealing with roommates and professors.

Don't be afraid to ask for help.

College is not a contest. You don't have to compete with anyone for your grade. Learn at your own pace and don't feel inferior if you don't understand something the first time around.

The bureaucracy of higher education is overwhelming. Stay calm, ask questions and be sure you know the name of the person you are talking to.

Support systems are essential for survival. Make friends. Talk to everyone.

Expect to feel lonely, frightened and isolated. But also remember - - you are not the only person experiencing these emotions, and it all gets better with time.

Read everything! Read your mail!

Don't take policy advice from other students: Check with offices on campus.

Join in all the activities you

can.

Don't be intimidated by faculty and staff. Your tuition dollars pay the salaries of university and college personnel. You are the customer, they work for you, so ask questions.

Your college catalog is your bible. You have to open it in order to reap the benefits of what is inside.

Get a copy of your school's code of ethics (honor code). A simple mistake could cost your degree.

Maintain a positive attitude, be a good listener, stick to your own convictions and strive past your dreams.

DORMS DO'S AND DON'TS!

Resident assistants are a valuable resource. Be sure to maintain open communication with your RA.

You must leave the building when the fire alarm rings.

Clean up after yourself. Avoid roommate problems and bug infestation.

Many schools offer “specialty floors.” Reserve your room early and be honest about special requests. Some options are:

1. Quiet study floors.
2. Upperclassman floors.
3. Health and wellness floors.
4. Chemically sensitive floors.
5. Multicultural floors.
6. Single-sex or co-ed floors.

Get involved in residence life. Almost every school sponsors some type of residence hall government and community activities.

Lock your doors - - even when you are in your room! Better safe than sorry.

- If your school allows cooking in the room:
1. Check to see which appliances are permitted for dorm use.
 - a. Dorm size refrigerator.
 - b. Microwave.
 - c. Toaster Oven.
 - d. Hot plates are rarely allowed!
- All appliances must have enclosed coils.

Report on the Status of Education in Rural America

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) has just released the report Status of Education in Rural America.

This report presents a series of indicators on the status of education in rural America, using the new NCES locale classification system. The new system classifies the locale of school districts and schools based on their actual geographic coordinates into one of 12 locale categories and distinguishes between rural areas that are on the fringe of an urban area, rural areas that are at some distance, and rural areas that are remote.

The findings of this report indicate that in 2003-04 over half of all operating school districts and one-third of all public schools in the United States were in rural areas; yet only one-fifth of all public school students were enrolled in rural areas. A larger percentage of public school students in rural areas than those in any other locale attended very small schools. A larger percentage of rural public school students in the 4th- and 8th-grades scored at or above the Proficient level on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reading, mathematics, and science assessments in 2005 than did public school students in cities at these grade levels. However, smaller percentages of rural public school students than suburban public school students scored at or above the Proficient level in reading and mathematics.

In 2004, the high school status dropout rate (i.e., the percentage of persons not enrolled in school and not having completed high school) among 16- to 24-year-olds in rural areas was higher than in suburban areas, but lower than in

cities. Current public school expenditures per student were higher in rural areas in 2003-04 than in any other locale after adjusting for geographic cost differences. Racial/ethnic minorities account for a smaller percentage of public school teachers in rural schools than in schools in all other locales in 2003-04.

In general, smaller percentages of public school teachers in rural areas than across the nation as a whole reported problems as “serious” and behavioral problems as frequent in their schools in 2003-04. Likewise, a larger percentage of public school teachers in rural areas than in other locales reported being satisfied with the teaching conditions in their school in 2003-04, though a smaller percentage of rural public school teachers than suburban public school teachers reported being satisfied with their salary. Public school teachers in rural areas earned less, on average, in 2003-04 than their peers in other locales, even after adjusting for geographic cost differences.

To browse this report and to view, download and print the report as a PDF file, please visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubst2007/ruraled/>

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The George Washington University is proud to announce the availability of full scholarships for Native American college students interested in studying in Washington, DC in Spring, 2008 in GW's Semester In Washington Politics program. The Native American Political Leadership Scholarship is funded by a gift from the AT&T Foundation. The scholarships cover full tuition, housing, books, transportation, and other expenses. Semester In Washington offers you first-hand knowledge and experience in election and legislative politics.

Application deadline is October 15, 2007.

For more information contact: Gregory G. Lebel, Director Semester in Washington

The George Washington University 1922 F. Street, NW. Rm. 404-A Washington, DC 20052 Tel: (202) 994-2526 Fax: (202) 994-8471 Toll Free: 800-367-4776 Email: glabel@gwu.edu Websites: GW Semester In Washington Semester In Washington: washingtoninternship.org and washingtonsemesterprogram.org in DC.

2007 TRIBAL COLLEGE FALL CLASS SCHEDULE

MVSK 1123-001 Beginning Mvskoke Language
MON/WEDS 4:00-5:30 PM HET 103 Colbert, M In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversational proficiency will be emphasized. Theory.

MVSK 1123-002 Beginning Mvskoke Language
TUES. 5:00-8:00 PM HANNA SCHOOL Baker, S. In this class, students will learn basic phrases, expressions, methods of communication in the Mvskoke language. Beginning level conversational proficiency will be emphasized. Theory.

MVSK 1133-001 Intermediate Mvskoke Language
MON/WEDS 4:00-5:30 PM HET 105 McNac, A. This class will be a continuation of the Beginning Mvskoke Language with an additional focus on reading, writing and comprehending the language. Activities will emphasize Mvskoke language interaction among students for achieving a higher level of conversational proficiency. Theory. Prerequisites: MVSK 1123 or permission of instructor.

MVSK 2013-001 Advanced Mvskoke Language
TUES/THURS 4:00-5:30 PM HET 105 Marshall, N. This course is designed to give students intensive practice at the advanced level in reading, writing and speaking the Muscogee language. Listening and speaking skills will be emphasized in class. Students will write a series of brief compositions and focus on developing new vocabulary. Students will participate in simulated conversations using the Mvskoke language. Theory. Prerequisite: MVSK 1123, MVSK 1133 or permission of instructor.

MVSK 2133-001 Conversational Mvskoke Language
TUES/THURS 4:00-5:30 PM HET 105 Marshall, N. This course will focus

on listening and speaking the Creek Language with intense practice on topics of everyday life.

MVSK 2253-001 Mvskoke Practicum: Reading & Writing
MON 4:00-7:00 PM HET 105 Marshall, N. This course emphasizes integrations of skills and strategies for reading and writing, including comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, sentence structure, and writing Mvskoke.

MVSK 2333-001 Mvskoke Literacy Project: Service Learning
BY ARRANGEMENT. Contact the Tribal College Office prior to September 5 for class meeting details. (Class is limited to ten students). This course is a form of experiential learning and provides students an opportunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with Mvskoke related language programs. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge on Mvskoke literacy.

MVSK 1213-001 Native American Tribal Government
TUES/THURS 5:00-6:30 PM HET 101 Staff A brief historical overview of Tribal Governments using selected tribes to provide a review of significant treaties, specific examples of sovereignty, federal legislation and state compacts. The executive, legislative and judicial branches of a selected tribal government will be analyzed as well as a discussion of contemporary critical issues.

MVSK 2523-001 Personal and Family Living
THURS 4:00-7:00 PM HET 101 Bunner, A. This course is designed to empower students to take action for the well being of themselves and others as they effectively manage the roles and responsibilities created by family, career and community interactions.

MVSK 1353-001 Human Relations
TUES 4:00-7:00 PM HET 103 Staff The course focuses upon a better understanding of human behavior as related to interpersonal relations on the job. Foundations of human behavior, strategies for effective human relations, fundamental skills of working as a team leader and team member, and ways of anticipating, preventing, and coping with challenges of human relations are major areas of study.

MGMT 2603-CMN Human Resources Management
THURS 5:00-8:30 PM TCNC Tiger, M. A study of the roles of human resources management functions: principles and practices in selection, staffing, wage and salary administration, training, motivating, collective bargaining, and human resource enterprises.

MVSK 2233-001 Public Relations
MON 4:00-7:00 PM HET 101 Wiley, A. Introduction to the practice of public relations, including fundamental concepts and theories, historical development and current issues.

ACCT 2103-CMN Financial Accounting
THURS 5:00-8:00 PM NCAT Hart, J This course involves the theory and practice of measuring and recording financial data for an economic unit; journalizing transactions; adjusting entries for revenue and expense items, inventories, depreciation, internal control with an emphasis on cash, current and long-term liabilities and accounting for corporation stock transactions. Course emphasis will be on the preparation and use of the income statement, balance sheet and statement of cash flows. Theory.

GAM 2213-001 Native American Gaming Law
MON 5:30-8:30 PM **TCNC** Staff This class will focus on the various lo-

cal, state and federal regulatory processes, including compacts, gaming ordinances and internal control regulations.

GAM 1103-001 Introduction to Native/Oklahoma
Gaming TUES 5:30-8:30 PM **TCNC** Steed, K. This course will include history of Native American gaming focusing on the unique aspects of tribal gaming in Oklahoma. Current and future trends of Indian gaming will be discussed. Students will study issues of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

GAM 1133-001 Basic Games Operations
WED 5:30-8:30 PM **TCNC** Steed, K. This course will focus on the basic understanding of rules and regulations for roulette, electronic games, blackjack and casino carnival type games and understanding the various personnel roles, duties and their functions.

GAM 1413-001 Introduction to the Casino Industry
THURS 4:00-7:00 PM **TCNC** Steed, K. Introduces the various segments of the gaming industry. Major topics include a review of the historical background of gaming and the evolution of the different types of gaming, including class II and III, lottery, riverboat, conventional and Native American gaming.

CS 1013-CMN Computer Literacy & Applications
TUES/THURS 2:00-3:30 PM CMN-HET 101 Staff. This course is an applied exploration of personal computing in which students learn system operation and maintenance, internet technologies and primary desktop applications. Theory/Lab.

MVSK 2113 Tribal Court Systems
TUES/THURS 5:00-6:30 *CN Mound Complex* Moore, P. This course is designed to provide an overview of American Indian Tribal Court Systems.

This course will expose students to Tribal Court Systems and its role in the Tribal Government and law enforcement within Tribal jurisdictions.

MVSK 2243-001 History of the Mvskoke
THURS 4:00-7:00 PM HET 101 Coser, P. Historical perspective of the Mvskokvke, pertinent documents, historical figures and analysis of events.

MVSK 2153-001 Grant Writing
MON 4:00-7:00 PM HET 101 Moss, J. The course teaches the mechanics of proposal writing and the political and social aspects of “grantsmanship”. Students will develop skills in identifying sources of grant funding, doing useful research to support their applications, and tailoring their proposals to specific audience interest

MVSK 2513-001 Community Health
WED 4:00-7:00 PM HET 101 Douglas, B. A course designed to create an awareness of current trends, basic issues, controversial issues, and fundamental principles in Health Promotion and Health Education. Particular emphasis will be placed in promoting the physical, mental and social welfare of citizens in schools and communities based on The Healthy People 2000: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives.

MVSK 2163-001 Project Management: Service Learning
BY ARRANGEMENT. Contact the Tribal College Office prior to September 5 for class meeting details. (Class is limited to ten students). This course is a form of experiential learning and provides students an opportunity to study and serve the tribal community by working with program directors and/or managers. Students will develop a portfolio relating to their service learning experience that reflects practical knowledge on managing project scope, schedule and resources.

4 Love of the Game

Girls win title, boys finish runner-up



SPORTS B7



2007 Native American Boxing

SPORTS B8



FEATURES

SECTION B

• www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov •

August 2007

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

Every time I fly South I return with another piece of our collective Mvsko story, another memory. In Peru a few years ago I was in the fekke of the western hemisphere, the place of many indigenous roots. Last week, after Green

Corn, I flew from Tulsa to Medellin, Columbia in South America. Must of us here know of Columbia because of coffee, and Medellin because it was the battleground of the cocaine drug trafficking cartels. I have learned a different Medellin. I saw immense crowds of people come out to hear poetry. They love poetry as much as sports. They appreciated the whole spectrum of poetry as it was presented by the over

70 poets from all over the world. The poetry didn't have to be hip-hop or over the top to catch attention. There were oral poets, classical poets, eyes-on-the-page poets, poets in Spanish, English and many other languages, including at least 8 indigenous languages. (They got to hear a little Mvsko). The audience was the same audience you would have found at the Creek Nation Festival. Even the children sat in rapt attention and listened. The last night's performance was in an amphitheater that held several thousand people. The seats overflowed and people sat out on the hills, for poetry. The performance went almost five hours. The highlight for me was the reading of the indigenous poets. We

performed together: Hugo Jamijoy of the Putamayo Nation; Fredy Chicangara of the Yanacona Nation, Lindantonella Solano of the Wyuu, Jessie Kleeman, Greenlander Kalaait Inuit, Natalia Toledo, Zapoteca, Gregorio Gomez, Guarani Nation from Paraguay, Allison Hedge Coke, Cherokee, Sherwin Bitsui, Dineh, and me.

What I value most was the small moments of time we had together. It's these small memories that make up the bulk of the content of all poetry, of our lives. We ate three meals a day together in the Gran Hotel and performed in various combinations with the other poets all over the city. We talked about family, about friends in common, joked, shared histories, talked about the extermination policies of governments, about worldwide earth changes and about what is always, and remains eternal. We compared stories.

Lindantonella's people have been targeted for extinction by the paramili-

taries. Right now in the northern part of her homelands the people are being massacred. The multinational corporations have discovered riches beneath the earth and are laying claim to oil, gas and other minerals. And this is going on in nearly all the tribal nations in the South. Sounds horribly familiar, doesn't it?

Allison reported that she, Sherwin and Fredy saw a very poor native woman sitting on the sidewalk with an infant, not far from the hotel. The mother was feeding her baby orange soda in a bottle. It was all she had. Allison went to buy food and milk. When she approached the woman to give her the bag of groceries, the mother panicked. She grabbed her baby and ran. Fredy interceded and told her that Allison just wanted to give her food. She took the bag, said "bueno, ciao", then disappeared in the street. Fredy said that there is a market for stolen children, especially for people in the north. She thought Allison had come to steal her baby.

For Fredy's people coca is a beloved plant. It is good for circulation, for the blood. His people's relationship with coca is similar to our relationship with ginseng or heles hvtk. Coca leaves carry the prime ingredient in the manufacture of cocaine. And cocaine in its refined state is highly addicting and surrounds itself

tionally. It too has been dehumanized by process, by lack of respect in its use.

How much have we been dehumanized by the manufacturing process of a consumer culture that does not value our essence as a people? And what happens to any of us in a dehumanized state? Massacres, bureaucracies, racism, cultural-ism are all outcomes of dehumanization. We learn to do it to ourselves and learn to dehumanize each other. In the process we lose respect for ourselves, and for those plants and elements that have accompanied us since the beginning. We also lose poetry.

My understanding is that we have three minds, yet they make one continuum. One takes care of everyday details, is linear; it's the organizer. It takes information directly from the five senses. The second is the gut-heart mind, or fekke. It's the mind of memory, the carrier of the ancestral knowledge. It is the knowing mind. The third is the intuitive, the beyond-human-knowing mind. It doesn't know time and space. It is beyond time and space. It is the compassionate mind. All things make sense here.

Dehumanization flat lines us to think and be in one dimension, or one mind. Think about it: most of our education in these times, and most of our presence is in the linear "buy-now" mind. Even language. Metaphor cannot happen in the linear. I've heard the Muscogee and Hawaiian language people speak about how we're losing metaphor, the ability to address several levels of meaning at once in our expressions. Our old language is full of potent sayings. Language ripples with meaning.

Always something to consider...and I appreciate those who have carried forth the poetry of our ways. There we were in the middle of the sky of that summer night, dancing with the fire. Or as Natalia Toledo says in her poem "Origin":

"We were a flake of God,/flower, deer and monkey./We were the torch that split the flash of lightning/and the dream told by our ancestors..."

Mvto.
("Origin" by Natalia Toledo from revista de poesia Prometeo, numeros 77-78, 2007 XVII Festival Internacional de Poesia de Medellin)



Joy Harjo



Pictured above are Sherwin Bitsui, Fredy Chicangara, and Joy Harjo

with guns, greed and violence. The manufacturing process dehumanizes coca.

The beloved corn, of our people (and the people of the South) has also suffered dehumanization and is now, in its refined state, contributing to the diabetes epidemic. Corn processed as corn syrup appears in a very high percentage of refined foods. We become addicted to it. The essence and the meaning of corn, and our relationship to it gets lost and perverted in the process. Consider tobacco and how it has served us tradi-

Service Donated for Veteran's Monument



Pictured above from left to right are George Gulley, Ray Gulley, Melody Gulley, Cpl Wes Baker, 6th Marine Division USMC WW II,

OKMULGEE — Martin Monument located in Okmulgee Oklahoma, donated their services to Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Veterans monument which will be located at the Tribe's Veterans Pentagon Building. The value of this gold leaf painted engraving service is around \$400. This plate will actually be placed on a bronze sculpture of a veteran and a warrior that was created by artist Sandra Van Zandt.

"I donated this to the Muscogee Veterans as honoring their sacrifices for our Country. I personally know a

lot of Muscogee Veterans and they are brave, quiet and decent," said George Gulley, owner of Martin Monument.

"The gift of Mr. Gulley to our Muscogee Veterans will be forever appreciated. He along with all of us Muscogee citizens honor our Muscogee Veterans and all American Veterans," said Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

The inscription says in the Muscogee Language and English, "We Always Have Been - We Always Will Be - Vanguard of the Land - Remember and Defend".

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY SERIES

The Invasion of the Mvskokvlke by Patrick E. Moore

The spring of 1539 found the Cuban port city of Havana bustling with activity. Hernando de Soto was preparing set sail north into unknown lands universally called La Florida. A journey of over 4,000 miles that did not end until 1543. Soto's expedition was the first to travel into the interior of what is now the North American continent.

There were almost 600 men involved, including officers, horse soldiers, foot soldiers, blacksmiths, carpenters, cooks, servants and slaves. There were 9 big ocean going ships committed to this adventure. The horse soldiers were to be mounted upon approximately 240 horses, and the foot soldiers supported by many packhorses and mules. Hernando de Soto, himself, traveled with almost 100 personal bodyguards, he had lawyers, stable hands, recording secretaries, messengers and a private treasurer. His entourage included over 40 pure bred Castilian horses and a herd of hogs. He left in Cuba large herds of sheep, goats, cattle and hogs with instructions they were to be moved to La Florida when a permanent landing and town could be established.

Hernando de Soto executed his Last Will and Testament on the 18th day of May, 1539 and sailed out of Havana harbor. La Florida was sighted on the horizon May 25th, 1539 and the fleet landed shortly after entering a bay most probably now Tampa Bay, Florida. Prior to making land the smoke of numerous fires was observed popping up in advance as Soto traveled along the coast. Native Americans were on the near shore and they knew Soto was approaching and were alarming all for they had dealt with the Spaniard before. When Soto finally landed late in the day he found an abandoned village and later discovered the residents had fled these villagers had personally experienced cruelty at the hands of Spaniard Panfilo de Narvaez who had briefly landed on their shore 10 or 11 years before. Narvaez practiced the same methods used by Columbus in 1492 where in order to extract gold from the natives, he cut of their noses, burned them at the stake, chopped of their hands, practiced swordsmanship on living natives and fed them to his dogs.

Expedition horses were taken ashore on May 30, 1539, however, several were lost while in slings and strapped in the ship's hold for 12 days. Soto's advance scouting party encountered approximately 10 natives who came out of the underbrush. This first meeting resulted in a confrontation where 2 natives were killed and several horses wounded before the natives vanished into the thick vegetation. Soto's horse soldiers could not follow due to their weak horses, who had lost their land legs while inactive at sea. Soto found an abandoned village 8 to 10 miles up the bay near the beach, consisting of several wood huts and a temple mound topped by a building adorned by spire of a bird with golden eyes. Soto quickly decided this would be his headquarters. The rest of his party finally arrived June 3, 1539. Hernando de Soto claimed the entire North American continent for Spain and himself. It did not bother him that Ponce de Leon and Panfilo de Narvaez had claimed the same lands years before Soto set foot on La Florida. Soto June 3, 1539 claim for Spain was a total of 7,300,000 square miles. Where did he get the authority to claim lands already owned by millions of indigenous people?

The Native American owners of this land in the Southeast numbered at least 1,000,000 strong and had no idea of what was in store for them with this arrival of Europeans. They lived as they had for thousands of years without ever encountering filthy bearded soldiers carrying steel weapons, the plague, smallpox and assorted other foreign diseases for which the native populations had no immunity. The first Natives Soto's men killed were Timucuan Indians who lived all over the upper La Florida Peninsula. The Timucuan Indians became extinct after Soto's contact, for they died by the thousands from European diseases leaving only a few hundred after contact with Soto's soldiers and those few were finally completely exterminated by the British in the 1700's. Soto's journals coupled with modern archaeologist's explorations reveal the Timucuan Indians built mounds, worshiped the sun, revered birds and tattooed

to be continued...

Mvsko Food Heritage Documentary Project

The Mvsko Food Sovereignty Initiative has received a First Nation's Development Institute grant for a video documentary project. MFSI will use FNDI funds to record oral histories pertaining to the food heritage of the Mvsko people. MFSI staff will recruit high school youth and train them in interview, film and video production techniques. Youth participants will select film topics and interview an elder relative, to record their knowledge of food cultivation, harvest and storage practices and other subjects. Eight months of the project will involve documentary work; in the fi-

nal quarter, MFSI will hold a film festival to premiere the young filmmakers' work.

MFSI will hold an orientation meeting on September 11, 2007. The meeting will take place at the tribal capitol complex, at 7:30 pm in the BIA Conference room. Project participants will receive information on project activities and the schedule of training, filming and production events. If you wish to suggest a young person as a potential participant, please contact MFSI at (918) or mvskofood@gmail.com

Good response to Veterans Dedication



Nicholas Howk/MNN

by Nicholas Howk

MNN Senior Writer

On July 12, 2007 a dedication ceremony was held at the Capital Complex of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The intention of the ceremony was to dedicate the new Veterans Building, but after severe weather, some activities were canceled and others were forced to move indoors. Despite the significant amount of rainfall on that day, Ken Davis of the Office of Veterans Affairs said, "The event was tremen-

dous and there was a great turnout."

Seeing all of the Native American Veterans gather together in one place was truly a historical event. Among the Veterans in attendance were 23 WWII Veterans and 103 active duty military personnel from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

If you were not able to attend the dedication ceremony, a grand opening for the new Veterans Build-

ing will be held on November 8, 2007. This event will be much smaller than the dedication ceremony, but will still be a significant gathering to commemorate the new building.

Ken Davis would like to thank everyone for attending the dedication ceremony and would like to see everyone back for the grand opening in November.

LANGUAGE

Language Preservation Manager



Pictured: Phillip Harjo, Millie Colbert, Alsie Harley, Mary Frye, Jolie Barnett, Gracine Hicks, Roberta Scott, Tummisah Lindsey, Sylvia Back and Koko Lowe

A Renewed Spirit
Traditional, this is the season to renew our spirits; set things right for the New Year and prepared ourselves for the next challenges. The Mvskoke Language Program has done just that. We have a new look and a renewed spirit. The Language Program is getting ready for the new school year with enthusiasm. The Language staff is a hard working group of individuals who are truly trying to make this program a success. As the Interim Program Manager I have found that the Language staff has great potential in making this program into a model program

The school programs will continue but with a whole new education plan and classroom activities that will inspire the students to learn. The hope of the program is to accomplish the goals and objectives that were set up in the original program proposal that will ultimately

lead to accreditation from the State Department of Education. We have a great deal of work ahead of us but we are confident that we will succeed.

We apologize for the interruption of the community language classes that were set up. We plan to reestablish the classes so that those who were attending classes can complete their course work. If your community would like to start up an evening language class, please contact Mary Frye at 918-732-7649. Please look for our new calendar of events in the next issue of the Muscogee News.

The Language Committee would like to invite all interested parties to apply for the Program Manager. The position will remain open until filled. We are looking for someone who has great managerial skills and budget preparation experience. Please submit your application and resume with the Muscogee

Creek Nation personnel office.

The Mvskoke Language Staff:
Virginia Thomas, Interim Manager @ 732-7641
Koko Lowe, Program Secretary @ 732-7724
Roberta Scott, Office Clerk @ 732-7721
Sylvia Baker, Administrative Assistant @ 732-7725
Millie Colbert, Curriculum Coordinator @ 732-7646
Mary Frye, Language Specialist @ 7649

The Language Committee:
Wilbur Gouge
Amos McNac
Jackson Barnett
Jeri Brandon
Virginia Thomas

Locv Svanv by Tumissah Lindsey

Locv Svanv in English

There was a little indian girl that love to goto stompdance. Her name was Tafv. Tafv love to shake locv. Tafv started shaking when she was around three years old. until one day her life started to change. she had to move out of state. But she still had love for her indian ways.

So Tafv and her sister always sat outside talking and laughing about stompdance of what they did what everybody done. they also listen to stompdance songs. Until one day Tafv was 11 years old. She was happy to move back. So Tafv finally went back to the thing she loves. So for the first time Tafv came back she put

on her locv. She had to shake for her oldest brother E-co for the very first



time back. So from there on she still loves and as of today she still goes to stompdance. The moral of the story is Tafv never lost her love and her tradition.

Locv Svanv in Creek

Este Cate hoktuce pvnkv ayetv

yecet oma tis. Tafv hocefkv to wa tis. Tafv locv svanpke yecet to wa tis. Nak marahkv haykepvt ekvnv etv hopiyen achunekv tis. Este cate emayetv vnockeke to wa tis.

Tafv, hvtvm ewvnwv, fettvn vpoket, opunvyet, hvtvm vpekvk tos. Opvnkv-haco opunvyet, naken mecvkot, hvtvm este-omvlkv nakmecvk tos. Hvtvm Opvnkv haco yvhiketv, vpohicvk tos. Tafv, Palen Hvmkvntvlaken, ohrolpe tos. Mvn Akueyicvte, vfvcke tos. Hvtvm, Tafv nak v-nokecvt, mvn Vh-yes.

Ahumkot Takv rlaket loca ehvrpe vcet. Rvhv pvnkv yacet os. ahumkot Tafv loca vcet. Momen Tafv or pvnkv yaces os.

SOMETHINGMVSKOKE

From the Classroom Language Teachers

As an Mskoke language teacher, I want my students to be able to learn the importance of the Creek language. I would like my students to be able to read and write in the Creek language. I want them to have a better understanding of the Creek history, so they can have more knowledge of the history and cultural of their Creek ancestors. The Mvskoke language plays an important part of their ancestors' history. I am excited and happy to be returning back to school to teach our language to the young people. I hope the students will be excited to learn more about their language and I hope they can begin to speak it on an everyday basis.

MVTO, Phillip Harjo

I started working for the Mvskoke Language Program late in the school year of 2007. This year I plan to get a head start teaching our Mvskoke Language to the students.

My objective for this year is for my students to know about our Mvskoke history, cultures, and our Mvskoke Language. I think this year we will have a wonderful turnout; I have many plans and expectations for my students to have fun learning where their family comes from. I'm very excited to see how much fun the kids will have learning their language. This year my students will be learning the Mvskoke Creek alphabet, and spelling a few of our Mvskoke words, I hope at the end of the day the students have something they can share with their families.

Gracine Hicks, Language Teacher

Youth Workers are the Best

The Language Department would like to say "Thanks" to our three Summer Youth Workers: Alsie Harley, Jolie Barnett and Tummisah Lindsey. They've been a big help to the program, the workers have helped us in so many ways. We could not have accom-

plished the new office look without their help and assistant in doing the inventory of all the program materials. The Language staff enjoyed working with the Youth Workers and speaking the



Language with Alsie, Jolie and Tummisah. Thank you girls for all your help and we hope to see you next year.

MVTO, Robert Scott, Office Clerk

A New Look

We are pleased to inform you that the Mvskoke Language Program office is newly redecorated and we invite you to come and visit our office. We are still located in the Human Development Building, where the previous Elderly Nutrition meals were served. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused by our redecorating. We will continue to be at your service at our newly decorated office.

Mvto!, Koko Lowe, Program Secretary

MVSKOKE CULTURAL FOOD RECIPES 2007

Taklik' Tokse (sour cornbread)

21/2 lbs. white cornmeal
1 cup all purpose flour
3 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. sugar
3 cups corn mixture
hot water
set aside in a MOTESV (crock) until it begins to sour. Bake in a cast iron skillet at 400 degrees for approximately 25 minutes.

Tafvmpuce (wild onions)

When wild onions are nice and tender in early spring, gather and clean onions. Cut onions into approximately two inch length. wilt onions in hot oil; add enough water to cover onions. Scarmble approximately 4 eggs- country eggs are suggested and

stir into oinions with a fork.

Oce Akcvnke (hickory nut safke)

Use one (1) gallon cracked corn and approximately one half gallon bucket of water or more. While corn is cooking over an open fire, crack hickory nuts (dry). Sift hickory nuts in a pan sifter and shake nut meat through the holes. Place nut meats in a KECO (mortar) and pound with a KECVPE (pestle) until the mix becomes oily from the nut meats. Add one half cup of corn soup and keep pounding teh mixture until the nut meat becomes dark brown. Place mixture in pan and add corn juice; stir mix until nut meats are melted. Strain mixture into the corn and boil until well seasoned.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM: ASSORTED ANIMALS
LOOK FOR MISSING LETTERS AND MATCH THEM IN THE NUMBERS IN THE SIDE

A	C	E	F	H	I	K	L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	V	W	Y
19	2	17	4	15	6	13	8	10	12	9	11	7	14	5	16	3	18	1

I am a small domestic mammal as a catcher of rats, mice, and as a pet.

11 9 14 17

I am a mammal with short legs, divided hooves, stiff, course hair and a snout used for digging.

14 16 13 15 3

I am a common domestic fowl.

5 9 8 9 14 17

I am a domestic canine mammal related to the foxes, and wolves.

17 4 3

5. I am a water bird having a broad, flat bill, short legs and webbed feet.

4 16 2 9

RELIGION

Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church Vacation Bible School



Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church

WETUMKA — Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church hosted their annual Vacation Bible School on June 19 through June 22.

The theme of the bible school was Game Day, which talked about how to be a hero and how everyone has a hero.

The bible school was under the direction of VBS Director Anthony Fish.

The turnout was great with having about 42 children nightly.

Kvncate (Charty) gospel singing

OKMULGEE CO.— Kvncate(Concharty)mekusvkvkcuko will behaving there annual singing September 15th starting at 7p.m.

Everyone is invited for a night of

Hallelujah.

There will be a concession.

For more information call 366-8450 or visit the website at Kvncate.com.

NOW IS THE TIME

By: Lola Gift

On June 21 Morning Star Fellowship in Hectorville held Campmeeting. Dr. Jay Swallow and Dr. Negiel Bigpond invited Chuck Pierce as one of the speakers. Chuck is an intercessor for America.

Chuck joined the leaders of Morning Star Fellowship in praying for the Resolution of Apology To The Native Peoples to be passed by the United States Congress. This meeting was a very important for the tribes that attended because the Resolution will acknowledge the breaking of agreements so healing can come to the land.

NOW IS THE TIME that God is

going to bless the Native American Tribes. Expect to receive God's blessing. NOW IS THE TIME that God is giving the Native American Tribes strategies of restoration for a fresh start that will change a nation. NOW IS THE TIME that God is realigning to bring the Native American Tribes into the fullness of His redemptive plan for them.

You can read more about the Resolution of Apology To The Native Peoples at <http://www.2-rivers.com> and more about Chuck Pierce at <http://gloryofzion.org>

Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church invites you to a revival on August 27, 28, 29 at 7:30 pm nightly. Speakers are Joe Bruner, Alfred Harley and Pastor Will Hill. For a

ride call 918-756-8642, 759-0083, 906-3106, 752-0045. Nursery will be provided and refreshments will be served.

Little Springs Baptist Church Reunion

OKLAHOMA CITY — Former members of Little Springs Baptist Church, Oklahoma City will hold a reunion on Saturday, September 29, 2007 from 11 am to 4 pm.

The reunion will be held at Victory Baptist Church, 2301 S.E. 15th St., Oklahoma

City (2 blocks east of Eastern Ave.) Please bring a covered dish.

For additional information, contact Delores Factor (405) 677-2925, Robert Davis (405) 452-3281, or Leona (Buck) Brooks (405) 379-7264

CELEBRATING 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



HICKORY GROUND # 1 BAPTIST CHURCH

HENRYETTA — Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church Invites you to join us as we rejoice in the Lord on: Saturday, September

29, 2007 Services begin at 11:00 A.M. Lunch will follow along with other activities in the afternoon.

NAME Regional Training Conference
August 23-25
Lawton, OK

First United Pentecostal Church

816 SW G Avenue (73502)
Phone 580.355.1772 or 580.536.2764
lawtonfirstupc@sbcglobal.net

Host Pastor: Rev. Rodney Shirel

Service Schedule


Thursday 7:30 PM	Training Session
Friday 10:00 AM	Training Session
Friday 7:30 PM	Evangelism Rally
Saturday 10:00 AM	Training Session

Teaching Sessions Include:


- Pre-Columbian America - America the Beautiful
- NA Life in the 21st Century (Urban -vs- Reservation)
- NA Spiritual Life (Traditional -vs- Modern)
- Tribal Council Government
- NA - Foreign Missions In Our Own Backyard

Speakers:
Rev. Donald Hanscom, MO; Rev. Melvin Yazzie, NM;
Rev. Warren Welch, SD; Rev. Jeff Chavis, NC

The Cause ...is obvious



The Cross ...our confidence



"NO TRIBE LEFT BEHIND" WHEN JESUS COMES!

Native North American Ministries and Evangelism

Hotel Info

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2610 NW Cache Road
Lawton, OK 73505
580.355.8200

Holiday Inn Express
209 SE Interstate Drive
Lawton, OK 73501
580.248.4446

SpringHill Suites
3 SE Interstate Drive
Lawton, OK 73501
580.248.8500

Fairfield Inn & Suites
201 SE 7th. St.
Lawton, OK 73501
580.248.5500

Contact Person:
UPCI - NAME Coordinator
Rev. Jeff L. Chavis
Chief1god@aol.com
910.497.4099 home
910.489.6349 mobile

UPCI-HMD-MCM
MCM Director
Rev. Donald Hanscom
DHanscom@upci.org
314.837.7300

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Preston Van Powell

OKMULGEE — Preston Van Powell was born at Southcrest in Tulsa on May 31. He weighed 6lbs and 12oz and was 20in in length. His parents are Valerie Taryole and Vernon Powell. Maternal grandparents are Darlene and Ken Taryole. Paternal grandparents are Pam Johnson and Rick and Leslie Powell. Maternal great grandparents are the late John and the late Nancy Frank and the late Van and the late Sophia Taryole. Paternal great grandparents are the late Bessie and the late Lax Johnson and Vena Randall and David Logan Powell. He is of the Tiger Clan and belongs to Tukvptce Tribal Town. His brothers and sisters are Michaela, Derrick, Sidney, Ayleah, Topley, Vernon Jr., and Cyann Powell.



BIRTHDAYS

Annie Haynes Chuckluck

Annie Haynes Chuckluck turned one year old on July 12, 2007. The theme of her party was Strawberry Shortcake. Her cake was made and decorated by Daniel & June Haynes. She is the daughter of Felicia & Wayne Chuckluck of Commerce, and the sister of Jayme and Wyatt Chuckluck . She is the granddaughter of Felix & Gloria Haynes of Okmulgee and Bridge & Linda Chuckluck of Salina, In attendance was host of family and friends to celebrate her birthday on July 14.



Sheridan Mattie Yargee

HOLDENVILLE — Sheridan Mattie Yargee celebrated her fourth birthday on June 11, at the Holden-ville Swimming Pool with the “Shrek 3” theme. She is the daughter of Elisha Scott and Wilson Yargee. Maternal grandparents are Roberta and Marcy Scott of Wetumka Paternal grandmother is the late Phyllis Yargee. There was many family and friends in attendance. She is a member of the Sweet Potato clan and a member of the Tukvptce tribal town. She is a member of the Alabama Quassarte ceremonial ground.



Cyann Bessie Powell

OKMULGEE — Cyann Bessie Powell celebrated her second birthday on April 14, with a Dora the Explorer party with family and friends. Her parents are Valerie Taryole and Vernon Powell. Maternal grandparents are Darlene and Ken Taryole. Paternal grandparents are Pam Johnson and Rick and Leslie Powell. Maternal great grandparents are the late John and the late Nancy Frank and the late Van and the late Sophia Taryole. Paternal great grandparents are the late Bessie and the late Lax Johnson and Vena Randall and David Logan Powell. She is of the Tiger Clan and belongs to Tukvptce Tribal Town. Her brothers and sisters are Michaela, Derrick, Sidney, Ayleah, Topley, Vernon Jr. and Preston Van Powell.



Annie Bear Walker Tiger

EUFAULA — Annie Tiger celebrated her 90th birthday on May 19th, although her birthday is on May 22nd. Those in attendance were her son Jimmy Walker, daughters : Louina Lasley, Millie Jean Colbert, and Carridianna Tiger. Son-in-law Rev. Rudolph Colbert & Monroe Lasley. Grand children: Jeffrey Walker, Megan and Anissa Tiger. Great Grand Children: Audrey Ana, Akiva, & Chebon Tiger. Her parents were the late Lillie Barnett Bear and Taylor Bear.



Lyla J. Walker

Lyla J. Walker just celebrated her 1st birthday with her family. Lyla celebrated with a Backyardigans theme party. She is the sister of Micka and Mackinze Walker and the daughter of Crystal Chisholm and H. Robert Walker,Jr. Maternal grandparents are Frank and Linda Chisholm of Morris. Maternal great-grandparents are Johnny Joe Asbury of Henry-etta; Rebecca Autaubo and the late George C. Autaubo of Okmulgee; the late Frank “Buck” Chisholm of Shawnee, OK; and the late Winona Williams of Fort Cobb, OK. Paternal grandparents are H. Robert and Joann Walker of Okmulgee. Paternal great-grandparents are Nadine Walker of Okmulgee.



Andreios Samuel Alexander

LAWRENCE, KS — Andreios Samuel Alexander (Oglala Sioux) celebrated his 12th birthday on July 2nd with a Sponge Bob Square Pants theme. He celebrated his birthday with a sleepover and pizza with his family and friends. He is the son of Margaret Alexander and the brother of Mag-dalene Alexander. Maternal grandparents are the late George “Toby” Alexander and Hattie Alexander.



Cindy Russell Gresham

Hitchita — Cindy Russell Gresham’s birthday was on June 5, but she celebrated it on June 13 with her son. She is the youngest of 5 children and the only girl. She has an 18 year old son, both are members of Hoffman Baptist Church. Her interests are sewing, painting, drawing, beading, cake decorating, cooking, swimming, camping, reading, and going to the movies. She is currently working on her Bachelors degree from NSU in Native American Studies with a double major in Organizational Leadership. She graduated from Bacone College in 1991 with an Associates degree in Arts and was a cheerleader for 2 years. I graduated in 1992 from OSU with an Associates degree in Applied Science. She returned to OSU in 2005 and received her degree in Secondary Education. She has worked at Creek Nation for 11 years. The first year was with Facilities, 8 years with Child Care, and 3 with Employment and Training. She is the daughter of the late Bertie Compton Russell and a member of Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church. Her grandmother is Margaret Gonzales, and great grandmother is Nancy Sessions Polk.

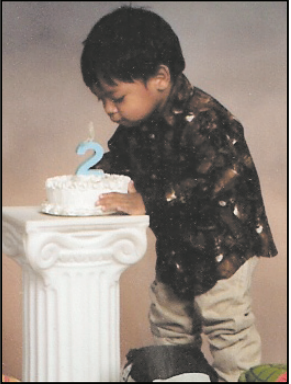


Forrest Gresham

Hitchita — Forrest Gresham celebrated his 18th birthday on June 13, with family and friends. His interests include basketball, computers, video games, and drawing. He is a member of Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church. He plans to attend OSU-Okmulgee in the Fall, maybe majoring in Graphic Design. He is the son of Cindy and Damon Gresham. His grandparents are the late Bertie Compton Russell, and Helen and Joe Gresham Sr. His great grandparents are Margaret Gonzales, Nancy Sessions, Ozena Zachery, Doc Zachery, Stella Gresham, and Alonzo Gresham

Dayne Allen Billie

OKEMAH — Dayne Allen Billie celebrated his second birthday at his Aunt Diana Baker’s house in Okemah on June 15th, and then on June 23rd at his home on the Big Cypress Reservation in Florida. He is the son of Mary Bear and Allen Billie. His grandparents are Susanna Bear and Lon Bear of Okemah & Thomas and Jane Billie of Clewiston, Florida. He is of the Wind Clan.



Asaiah Jon Leybas

OKMULGEE — Asaiah Jon Leybas celebrated his second birthday on July seventh at Incredible Pizza with a Sponge Bob Square Pants theme. In attendance were his parents Asa and Meghan Leybas, great aunt Karen Gray, grandparents Rev. Johnny and Nakina Leybas, and many aunts, cousins, and friends. Maternal grandparents are Fred Bear and the late Rhonda K. Bear. Maternal greatgrandparents are Fred Bear Jr. and Carolyn Littlehead. He has one uncle Erick Postoak. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Benny and Lillian (Albert) Leybas, and Wilfred Taryole and Alice (Scott) Freeman. Paternal great-great-grandparents are Waddie Albert and Bertha Fisher, and Jim Scott and Cinda Hill.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ricardo C. Johnson

OKLAHOMA CITY — Ricardo C. Johnson earned placement on the Honor Roll for each semester of the 2006-2007 school year at Dove Science Academy, a charter school for the sciences in Oklahoma City. He successfully completed the ninth grade. He is the son of Marvin E. Johnson, Junior and the great-great-grandson of original allottee Jeannetta Barnett Johnson of Euchee Tribal Town.



Leona (Tiger) Sullivan

COWETA — At the Chalakee - Berryhill Reunion, in June, Leona (Tiger) Sullivan was crowned “Queen for the Day”, by Martha (Chalakee) Reece. She is the eldest member of Springtown United Methodist Church near Broken Arrow, and of the reunion family. Leona 87, was born in Coweta to the late Rev. Thomas Tiger and Nicey (Chalakee) Tiger. She attended Coweta Grade School. After her mother passed away she was sent to Murrow Indian Orphanage at Bacone. Out of grade school from Bacone she went on to the former Haskell Institute, and graduated from high school. From there she went to Western Arizona State College, majoring in Buisness and Minor Sociology. She went four years at Cook College, majoring in Christian Education. Her Tribal Town is Tulsa Canadian and she is of the Beaver Clan. Virginia Hthomas was the Auctioneer for the Auction Night.



LEDA V (BURGESS) BRUNER

BROKEN ARROW — Leda V (Burgess) Bruner , 82, died Sunday, July 15, 2007 at her home in Broken Arrow.

She was born September 14, 1924 on her father’s allotment near Elam. She was the daughter of Tyler and Mima (Beall) Burgess.



Leda V. Bruner

She is survived by son, Steve of Broken Arrow; six grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren; and sister, Lahoma Langston.

She was preceded in death by her husband Elliot Bim, in 2001; and son, Danny, in 1999; three brothers and four sisters.

A Prayer service was held at 7p.m., Wednesday, July .18, at Hayhurst Funeral Home Chapel led by Bo Johnson and 2nd Chief Alfred Berryhill.

A Memorial service was held at 10a.m., Thursday, July 19, 2007 at First United Methodist Church in Broken Arrow.

Interment was held at Park Grove Cemetery in Broken Arrow.

The family would like to thank all those who sent flowers and offered comforting thoughts and prayers during this time.

Her presence at the Nation’s and communities various events will greatly be missed.

SIAH MCINTOSH

TULSA — Siah McIntosh, 86, of Tulsa, OK formally of Eufaula, OK passed away at his home in Tulsa Monday, July 2, 2007.

Funeral services are to be held Friday, July 6, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. at the Gregg Funeral Home Chapel in Eufaula, OK with Rev. Joe Burner officiating.

Pallbearers are Gerald Girod, Richard Blalock, Michael Grider, Michael Mozingo, Luke McIntosh, Daniel Wall, Kenneth Tungate, and Charles McIntosh.

Internment will be at the Scott Family Cemetery located west of Eufaula.

Arrangements are under the love and care of Gregg Funeral Home, Inc. in Eufaula.

He was born on March 8, 1921 to Jobe McIntosh and Emma Gray in Brush Hill, OK and was raised in Fame, OK.

He attended school in Stidham and Dixie where he some times rode his horse to school.

He later attended McClain. Siah entered the army and served in WWII where he served in the military police in England.

After his 2nd tour he married Lillie Scott on January 29, 1946 at the McIntosh County Court House.

He owned and operated the Eufaula Laundry Services for many years and later went to work for McDonald Douglas Aviation as a jig maker where he worked until retirement in the middle 80’s.

He loved working on small engine repair for his friends and working in his garden where he cared for his roses.

He loved arts and crafts where he would pass time by making jewelry.

He went on to Okmulgee Tech where he learned to work on cars.

Siah is preceded in death by his wife, Lillie, his parents, Jobe McIntosh and Emma Gray, three brothers, Cheesie, Chillie, and Luke, sister, Salina.

He is survived by daughter, Helena and husband Russell Girod of Broken Arrow, OK, daughter, Joan and husband Allen Grider of Glenpool, OK, daughter Delores and husband William Mozingo of Tulsa, OK, daughter Phyllis and husband Terry Tattershall of Inhola, OK, son, John and wife Lori McIntosh of Tulsa, OK, brother, George and wife

Kaniah McIntosh of Muskogee, OK, 12 grandchildren, and 23 Great Grandchildren.

OTTO “CHIEF” L. SMITH

EUFAUA — Otto “Chief” L. Smith, 95, of Tulsa, passed away Tuesday, July 3, 2007.

Funeral services were held Saturday, July 7, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Gregg Funeral Home Chapel in Eufaula with Chaplin Harry Adams officiating.

Pallbearers are to be Mark Smith, David Smith, Matthew Smith, Blake Smith, Aaron Stanley, and Randy Smith. Internment will be at the Greenwood Cemetery in Eufaula.

Arrangements are under the love and care of Gregg Funeral Home, Inc in Eufaula.

Otto was born on November 15, 1911 to Rashie Smith and Bethel Ferguson in Raiford, OK, where helived with his family until later moving to Eufaula.

He graduated from Eufaula High School and followed school by playing college football for several colleges and had fond memories of scoring a touchdown against Notre Dame.

In 1938 he married Marguerite Lewallen in Miami, OK and moved to Jacksonville, FL to paint ships and play baseball.

Following the war he returned to Oklahoma where he worked in Vinita for a short time and later for Sunco Oil until his retirement as a painter.

He was a great sports enthusiasts and did trick jump roping.

He loved music which included the guitar and violin.

He would play his fiddle for the residents of the local nursing home.

He was very devoted to his parents and family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Rashie and Bethel Smith, wife, Marguerite (Lewallen) Smith, and brother, Curtis N. Smith.

He is survived by his aunt, Maude Allen of Tahlequah, OK, son, RC Smith of Borger, TX, son, Brice Smith of Tulsa, OK, daughter, Regina Smith and husband Richard of Tulsa, OK, daughter Rebecca Henderson and husband Bery of Tulsa, OK, sister, Beth Atkinson of Sand Springs, OK, 8 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, and 1 great great grandchild.

GARY EUGENE GEORGE

SAPULPA — Gary Eugene George of Sapulpa departed on June 15, 2007, at the age of 54 to be with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Gary George

He was born on Nov. 11, 1953 in Claremore, OK., to his parents Rufus and Addie Rolland George who have preceded him in death.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Donald George, and sisters Delores Marshall and Ramona Sweeny.

He was a descendent of the Yuchi Tribe of Oklahoma as well as a member of the Polecat Ceremonial Ground, the Native American Church and the Pickett Chapel Indian Methodist Church.

He was also a member of a fifth-generation family.

He is survived by his brothers, Ruben George and family of Nampa, Idaho, Willie George of the home, Melvin George and family of Muskogee, John George and family of Sapulpa and Ronald George of Tulsa; sisters Alma Jean Gibson and family of Sapulpa, Christina Wright and family of Sapulpa and Valerie Harjo of the home.

He is also survived by 110 nieces and nephews whom he loved and thought of a lot.

He attended elementary school Garfield and Washington, the Sapulpa

Junior High, Sequoyah High School of Tahlequah and Jordan High School of Columbus, GA., where he was a member of the ROTC program.

Wake services for Gary will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 18, 2007, in the Smith Funeral Chapel with Native American Church services at the home.

Funeral services have been set for 10 a.m Tuesday, June 19 in the Smith Funeral Chapel with Melvin George and John George presiding over services.

Internment will be in the South Heights Cemetery. Serving as casket-bearers will be William Tiger, Brandon Tiger, Malcomb Whitebird, Robert Trickey, David Dennison Jr. and Mike Elizondo.

Family will be headquartered at 1128 N. Main in Sapulpa.

Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

ARIANA “BABY” BRINKLEY

EUFAULA — Ariana “Baby” Brinkley, 5, of Eufaula, passed away Wednesday, July 4, 2007.

Wake services will be Friday, July 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel in Eufaula.

Tom Pickering will be officiating, and funeral services are to be held Saturday, July 7, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the Gregg Funeral Home Chapel.

Rev. Raymond Beaver will be officiating.

Pallbearers are William Hill, John Hill, James Holt, and Bryan Holt. Honorary pallbearers are David Long Sr., Joshua Brinkley, Robbie Belcher, and James Brinkley.

Internment will be at the West Eufaula Indian Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the love and care of Gregg Funeral Home Inc. in Eufaula.

She was born on September 15, 2001 to Grayson Hill and Nicholas Brinkley in Tahlequah.

She enjoyed being outside and playing with her friends.

She loved her family and will be greatly missed by all.

She is preceded in death by her Uncle Taylor Fields.

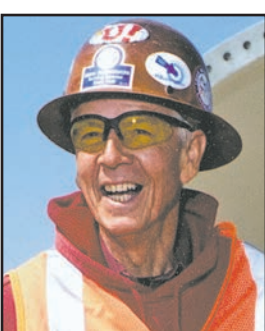
She is survived by her mother, Grayson Long of Eufaula, OK, father, Nicholas Brinkley, sister, Hanna Long of Eufaula, OK, brother, David Long Jr. of Eufaula, OK, grandparents, David and wife Jacqueline Brinkley Sr. of Eufaula, Grandmother, Polly “Cox” Belcher of Lafayette, IN, great grandmother, Edna Belcher of Eufaula, and uncle, Robbie Belcher.

BILLY “RED” HARJO

CLAREMORE — Billy “Red” Harjo was born on May 22, 1951 to Louise Harjo Fish in Claremore, and died July 31, at the age of 56 at the Holdenville General Hospital .

He fought a long and courageous battle with Plumonary Fibrosis.

He attended both Weleetka and



Bily “Red” Harjo

Wetumka Schools, graduating from Weleetka High School in 1971.

He also attended Electrical School in Tulsa and was a licensed electrician. The late Reverend Johnson Roberts baptized him in December of 1997 at Middle Creek Baptist Church in Lamar.

He married Tilda Harjochee on October fourth, 1996.

Shortly after their marriage they moved to Fort Worth,Texas.

He was a member of Ironworkers Union Local #263 of the Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas area.

From there, he, along with his wife

Tilda traveled the country going to where his job was.

His job took them to Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Montana, Oregon, and Washington State where he helped erect Wint Turbines.

He was very loving and compassionate man to those entire he met.

He was not afraid to say “I Love You” to his grandchildren.

In addition, to Ironworkers, he was known as “Papa Red”.

He made friends everywhere he went and was never a stranger to anyone, and always welcomed anyone to come and eat with him.

He was charitable, and not afraid to give his last dollar to anyone who was in need.

His wife Tilda of the home, two daughters, survives him: Kristi Nicole Pugh of Moody, Alabama; and Abbie Harjochee of Wetumka,OK.

Two sons: Charles Broncho of Henryetta and Harbor Harjochee of Holdenville.

Six grandchildren: Jordan Nicole Pugh, Mvneechea and Tyler Gene Harjochee; Kayla, David, Kizzie Broncho.

Two his mother: Louise Harjo Fish, his sisters: Marie Smith of Lamar and Betty Mahan of Dustin, two aunts, Margaret Gann of Tulsa and Myrna Harjo of Fort Worth, Texas.

One uncle: Bennie Harjo of Weleetka, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who were all very dear to him.

Funeral Services were 2:00p.m. Sat. August 4th, at the Middle Creek Indian Church, in Lamar, Oklahoma with Reverend Mark Smith officiating.

Pallbearers were John Smith, James Smith, Marsey Scott, Clint Meadors, B.C. Yahola, and David McGilbray.

Honorary Pallbearers are Clyde Smith, Rufus Scott, Dale Mahan, Darrell Mahan, Larry Don Smith, Chester White-tree, Mitchell Whitlow, Jeremy Mahan, and Larry Smith, Jr.

Burial was at the Wiley - Watson Cemetery in Dustin.

JESSE ELLIS “PEANUT” SCOTT

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Jesse Ellis “Peanut” Scott was held Monday, August 6, 2007 at 2:00 PM at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church.

Interment followed at the Yarholar-Scott Cemetery.

A Wake service was held Saturday from 7:00-8:00 PM at the Parks Brothers Chapel in Okemah.



Jesse Ellis “Peanut” Scott

He was born November 26, 1968 in Wetumka, Oklahoma to Jesse and Betty (Tiger) Scott.

He passed away Friday, August 03, 2007 in Okemah at the age of 38.

He was a graduate of Okemah High School in 1987; and later graduated from OSU Okmulgee in 2005.

Preceding him in death was his father, Jesse R. “Sousa” Scott; grandmother, Susie Looney Scott; and Uncle John “Sundala” Scott, Rev. Charlie Tiger, and Annie Tiger.

He is survived by his mother, Betty Jo Scott of Okemah; his children one son, Cael Ellis Scott of Okemah; two daughters, Jordyn Mica Scott and Jessi Rae Scott both of Checotah; and a host of nieces and nephews; two brothers, Travis Scott and wife Alison of Okemah and Stacey Scott of Weleetka; two sisters, Suzanne Hicks of Okemah and Sandra Pringle and husband Todd of Glenpool.

Serving as pallbearer will be Robbie Deere, James and Jeff Strianese, Joe Had-dox, Todd Pringle, Joe Wind, Jon Green, Kyle Doke, Mike Johnson, and Dewayne Hicks.

Honorary bearers include: Ryan Hicks, Jalen Scott, Kyle Scott, Justin Hicks, and Scott Pringle.

Services under the direction of

Parks Brothers Funeral Home and officiated by Rev. Fred Lindsey and Rev. Vernon Yarholar.

DANIEL HARJO

HANNA — Daniel Harjo passed away at the age of 59, on Sun. July 29, at his residence in Hanna, OK.

He was born on July 25, 1948 to Jack and Nancy Harjo in Hanna.

He lived in Hanna all his life.

He attended schools at Hanna and graduated from High school.

After graduating from Hanna High School he went to the Okmulgee Technical



Daniel Harjo

School and learned Precision Machinery.

He then was employed as a machinist at J&J Manufacturing company at the time of his death.

He enjoyed fishing in his free time but most of all he enjoyed spending his time with his family and grandchildren.

He was also the Mekko of Hillabee Ceremonial Ground and was very active in his customs and traditions.

He is survived by his wife Lucy of the home, two sons Ricky Ray Harjo of Holton, KS and Steven R. Harjo of Checotah.

Three brothers Alex Harjo, Lewis Harjo and Leroy Harjo all of Hanna.

Four sisters Kizzie Harjo of Hanna, Jeanetta Harjo of Oklahoma City, Bernice Proctor of Shawnee and Helen Erwin of Tulsa.

Three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother Woodrow Harjo and sister Colleen Harjo.

IDA BULLETT

OKMULGEE — Ida Bullett, a resident of Okmulgee, went to be with the Lord, Thursday, August 2, 2007 at the age of 94 years, 1 month and 21 days.

She was born Wednesday, June 11, 1913 to Henry Micco and Susie Knight in Okfuskee County, Oklahoma.

She attended Bacone Boarding School in Muskogee and then moved to Pawhuska afterwards.

She retired after approximately 10 years as a Baptist Missionary and worked a few years as a waitress and cook at the Sandwich Shop in Tulsa.

She was a longtime member of the Little Cussetah Indian Baptist where she taught Sunday School and Bible School and was a member of the Women's Missionary Union.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Reverend Solomon Bullett; her parents; brothers, John and David King and a twin sister, who died at birth.

Survivors include one daughter: Loretta Bullett Harjo and husband, Randy of Okmulgee; one son, Douglas Freeman and wife, Loretta of Tulsa; eight grandchildren, Jaymee Bullett, Robert Bullett, Grant Harjo, Shelby Harjo, Skylar Harjo, Rachel Layton, Jessica Freeman and Paula Freeman; two great grandchildren, Angel Jackson and Alyssa Hall

Wake Services were held at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 5, 2007 at the Shurden Funeral Home Chapel in Okmulgee.

Funeral Services was held 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 6, 2007 at the Little Cussetah Indian Baptist Church in Sapulpa.

The Reverend Willis Knight officiating. Burial will follow the service at the Little Cussetah Indian Church Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Pallbearers will be Maverick Sadler, Waylon Garrett, Douglas Freeman, Robert Coffey, Kim Howard, Phillip Fox, Hoovey Perez and Vincent Deo.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Randy Harjo, Robert Bullett, Grant Harjo and Skylar Harjo.

Visitation will be Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Shurden Funeral Home Chapel in Okmulgee.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenkelley.com

NABI Champs!

4 Love of the Game Girls nab title, Boys take runner-up

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

PHOENIX — Back in April, 4 Love of the Game organization released some frustration in winning Denver’s Amerind All-West Classic basketball tournament after coming so close the two years prior. In their first trip to the nationally renowned Native American Basketball Invitational in Phoenix, they wouldn’t have to wait quite as long to leave their mark.

When the smoke cleared and the dust settled it was the 4 Love of the Game teams, representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, that had made the finals, outlasting over 80 other teams. That meant a trip to the US Airways Center, home of the NBA’s Phoenix Suns and WNBA’s Phoenix Mercury, for their final two games. “What an unbelievable experience for our kids,” said Lucas Taylor, 4 Love of the Game chairman and trip coordinator. “Not only to make it to the finals in our first year, but to play in front of that many people in an NBA arena. It was awesome.”

The two teams made short work of their opponents throughout the pool play portion of the tournament winning by large margins and topping the 100-point plateau on more than one occassion. Then came the semifinals with the girls taking on The Rez Girls, representing the White Mountain Apache Tribe out



of Arizona and the boys team taking on the Yakama Nation out of Wapato, WA. The girls fought off the Rez Girls in a hard fought contest, 83-74, to advance to the championship game where it would be a “battle of the 4’s” as they faced 4 Kornerz, representing the Navajo Nation out of Ganado, AZ. On the boys side it was an easier semifinal game as they took down the Yakama Nation, 94-80. That set up a match-up in the finals with in-state rivals Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe out of Concho. This finals game was a de ja vu type deal as the same two teams battled a few months earlier in Denver, with 4 Love of the Game coming up short.

In the girls game, a hard fought contest, the 4 Love of the Game girls

emerged victorious over 4 Kornerz by a slim margin, 56-54. “What a great thing to come out here and take this thing on our first try,” said Taylor. “We let everyone out here know what we’re all about.” In the boys finale, the Gamers came up just short again but nonetheless, outlasting many other teams in impressive fashion on their way to a runner-up finish. All in all, it was a measuring stick performance for the group out of Henryetta representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. “To come out here among all these tribes and represent the Creek Nation, was an honor for all of us,” said Taylor. “I think we carried the banner in a great way.”



Wild finish punctuates 6th Annual Native American All-Star Game

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

LAWRENCE, KS — New York Yankee legend Yogi Berra is famous for coining the phrase “it ain’t over ‘til it’s over.” If Yogi had been in attendance at this year’s Native American All-Star football game, his newest response likely would have been “I told you so.”

The multitude of fans that packed Lawrence’s Haskell Stadium on July 21st saw perhaps the craziest ending to a football game ever as the East squad took advantage of a mental error and edged the West, 16-14. With five seconds remaining in the game and with a six-point lead, all the West had to do was take a knee and the game would be over. Instead, West running back and Haskell Indian Nation’s University signee Quinton Haynes was instructed to run out of the back of the end zone for a safety, thus ending the game with a four-point victory. Haynes reached the end zone and thought he heard a whistle. Seeing no remaining time on the clock, he then believed that the game was over and dropped the ball in the end zone. It was then recovered by the East’s Chance Allensworth for a touchdown to tie the score at 14-14. Building on the momentum, the East punched in the two-point conversion to cap off the 16-14 victory in front of a stunned crowd and an even more stunned Quinton Haynes. “I thought it was over,” Haynes told the Lawrence Journal-World. “And once that clock hit zero, I just gave up the ball.”

The quirky ending did nothing to

diminish the quality of the game itself, which was a hard-fought defensive battle that was decided in the trenches. The game, in it’s sixth year continues to attract the best and brightest that Indian country has to offer.

Started in 2002 by John Harjo, himself a Haskell alum and co-founder of NDNsports.com, the game gives Native athletes the opportunity to close out their high school football careers



with pride in a contest that magnifies the accomplishments of Indian people. Many of the players, such as Haynes, go on to successful college careers. The players for the game are chosen based on their season accomplishments and is open to any football player who holds a tribal citizenship card from any federally recognized tribe or Canadian Indigenous tribe. “Everything went really well, I’m really pleased with this week’s events and where this game has come from and where it’s going,” said Harjo. “When we first started (in 2002) it was something that we just wanted to

try, to see if we could do it. Now we are getting more and more players and the quality of players is enhanced every year that we have played. I know it’s going to continue to get better.”

Among the perks of the week for the players is the opportunity to pick up some individual hardware as a result of their efforts in the game. Offensive, Defensive and Overall MVP awards are presented at the game’s conclusion. This year’s recipients were Quinton Haynes (Offensive), Will Evans (Defensive) and Joshua Parkhurst (MVP). Many tribes from as far as Canada, New York and South Dakota were represented in the game. In addition, four players of Muscogee (Creek) descent were participants and members of the victorious East squad. Those players are OL Joe Cuevas (Tahlequah Sequoyah HS), OL Zeke Reedy (Warren Co. HS, Tennessee), OL Lehomahte Wasana (Tahlequah Sequoyah HS) and WR Jeremy Jackson (Tulsa School of Science and Technology).

“We can’t wait until next year, because this game continues to grow,” said Harjo. “Keep supporting us and we’ll put out a great product.”

HOT CORNER

Hensci! Ok, I’m gonna knock on wood here as I say this but it has finally quit raining! At least for now that is. I will definitely not continue for fear of jinxing the whole thing. As for the month of August? Away we go....

Hasn’t been a pleasant summer in the Salsman house thus far when it comes to baseball. My Cardinals are currentlt 8 games out of the race and time is ever so quickly ticking away on the ‘Birds. It’s funny to me that my beloved ‘06 World Series champions went from the top of the mountain to the middle of the road in no time. Parity has taken over professional sports. I have learned some things. Great players don’t always stay great, people move to bigger money, more teams take more chances and professional sports dynasties might be dead. But I’m not bitter or anything, can’t you tell?

You may look just a few inches above this column and find the story about 4 Love of the Game hoopers going out to Phoenix and showing them how we play ball here in Oklahoma. What you will not find is probably just as important. Even though I think NABI is a great tournament, and it’s popularity is a plus for the Indian youth, I still do not believe that it can hold a candle to what we have right here every year in Creek country, operated by our Creek citizens. The March Madness Tournament takes a back seat to no tourney in this country when it comes to scholarship opportunities and college preparation for our young people. They do this without focusing on profit. I think some people get caught up in the glitz and glamour of these national tournaments because of their financial backing. Let’s look at whats most important, and that’s the development of our youth into strong Native people. All the money, fancy uniforms, big arenas and celebrity speakers in the world don’t mean a thing if you fail to reach people and truly make a difference.

The PGA Championship hits Oklahoma this month as the golf world’s best descend upon Southern Hills Country Club right down the road in Tulsa. I even hear the great Tiger Woods has a little suspected Native heritage in him. I might have to nab



JASONsalsman
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an interview with him. Maybe he has one of those Cherokee grandmother stories? Ayyyy!

Did anybody make it out to the Million Dollar Elm Casino in Tulsa last month for the National Native American Amateur Boxing Championships? I heard there was a great turnout, and the action was non-stop. I know how they got those fighters to get so amped up. There was no medal or belt on the line, they just had a bowl of beans and a piece of salt meat outside the ring and said the winner takes that! Then they just turned them loose! And I am hearing reports that the ring announcer for the majority of the action closely resembled our own Gerald “Old School” Wofford. Truth is G-Woff is a big contributor to Native American pugilism and can tell you most of anything you want to know about the “sweet science.” Don’t believe me, just listen to our radio show every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. on KOKL AM 1240 (shameless plug I know).

Next month I finally get to start writing about OU football again, which I know my buddy “The Doc” Pete Coser is thrilled to hear about. Myself and Dr. Coser have allegiances that run as deep as the Mississippi. It just so happens that those allegiances are to the two in-state Bedlam rivals. But in the name of good sportsmanship and putting aside our differences for now, I will be stately and wish Dr. Coser and his Oklahoma State Cowboys the best of luck in the upcoming football season, because believe me with that defense they are going to need it! I had to take a shot, I just had to. Complimenting Oklahoma State, for me, is like taking your cousin to the prom.

Everybody enjoy the month of August and get ready for another football season. I tell ya, time flies. Until next time.....

Quote of the month

“I always turn to the sports page first, which records people’s accomplishments. The front page has nothing but man’s failures.”

-Former U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren



Indian Boxers travel to Oklahoma for tourney

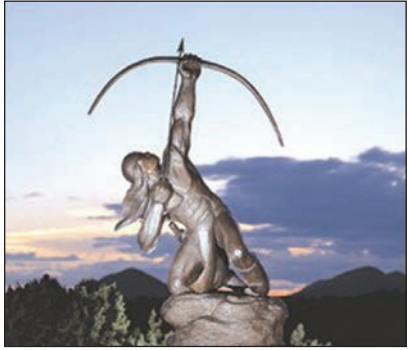
By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

Some of the best Native American Amateur Boxers in the North American continent converged on Tulsa, Oklahoma during the days of July 5,6, & 7 to compete in the National Native American Boxing Championships. Boxers from as far away as Walpole Island in Canada and Salamanca, New York and to Chinle, Arizona showcased their talent in front of the hometown crowd.

The winners for the Championships included: Zachariah Jacquez (Navajo) in the 80 pound and 10-11age division, Marcus Jacob in the 85 pound

and 10 11 age division. Jordan Reiller in the 165 pound men's novice division. Nate Jimerson and Shane Schartzer in the 201 pound men's novice division. Dustin Williams in the 152 pound senior men's division. Grant John in the 165 pound men's open division. Joshua Steele in the 178 senior men's open division and Mioshia Wagoner in the 189 pound senior female division.

The event was held in partnership with Everlast Boxing, as well as the Native American Sports Council.



2007 National Native American Boxing Championships Tulsa, Oklahoma



Lawn Mower races in stride

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

The hot summers can sometimes make men become more creative with their driving vehicles, that's usually the time when 'hot-rods' and muscle-cars are seen more often at car-shows around the country. But what if you don't have an super-engine or a car-body to put a motor in? You do the next best thing, you turn to your riding lawn mower and then turn it into a thorough bread speed machine- now that's creativity and pure American Ingenuity-Native American ingenuity that is. Mike Harjochee has done just that, Harjochee turned his (to find the proper phrase) 'personal lawn facilitator' into a Grass car lawn mower racing . Harjochee built his riding Lawn mower to race not on the grass, but on the dirt, thats right the dirt! In Harjochee's eyes, just a little change here, a little adjustment there and get rid of the blade and you got yourself



Michael Harjochee takes the inside lane during one of they many Grascar racing sessions. The season begins in April and goes through October. Harjochee says the sport is competitive but everyone is supportive of each other and his family even helps push him to start the race.

a fine tuned machine thats ready to go. Harjochee had always been interested in racing, especially the Nascar. And Stock car scene. But in Harjochee's words. "this sport (lawn mowing racing) keeps my wife (Heather) calm and not as

worried, If I drive lawn mowers."

In the summer of 2005 Michael and his wife Heather were at the Oklahoma City fairgrounds watching the car races. That was the first time as Harjochee says he " fell head over heels with the idea of lawn mower racing. At the half time point of the car races, they had introduced the drivers of the lawn mowers. We (family) were excited to see this," says Harjochee. "After that race we went to speak to one of the drivers. We then went to an actual lawn mower race the next weekend in El Reno Oklahoma. The following month I bought a mower that was race ready. It was only 12 horse power, but I won the very first feature race I was in that day. I was so excited! I then felt like this is where I can have my family and friends hang out and have a great time. I am proud of my Indian heritage. My team is called 5H racing, for Harjochee's . But I had 'REDMAN RACING' put on my mower also. "I could show my heritage too."



SHOP TALK with GERALD

Well, I hope everyone is safe and sound out there and you're getting a chance to watch some really good sporting events happening out in Creek country and beyond.

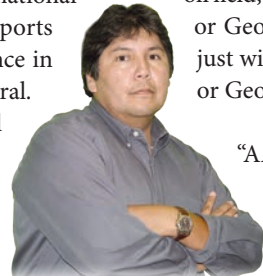
While watching the national news last week, it seems sports has taken another precedence in how it affects society in general. The recent NBA scandal involving the official Tim Donaghy and his payoffs involving the mob and affecting the outcome of basketball games is, of course, terrible in itself, but on a lighter note it does help

to make sense of the some the quirky outcomes of some scores. I mean just when you are sure one team has it all wrapped up and its time to mail it in, the other team suddenly wins, due to some 'questionable' calling. Yeah, something was mailed in alright, and it wasn't just a score, givew a whole new meaning to "the checks in the mail"!

Hope the local readers got to catch, (yes, I'm plugging another newspaper) the July 17th Tuesday edition of the Tulsa World, the northeastern Oklahoma newspaper has created a special 'Oklahoma Centennial' series celebrating the state's 100th birthday with stories and events of the past century.

The Tuesday's edition included a special story about Hominy Indians of the 1920's. This was a professional football team in the 'barnstorming' days as they liked to call it back then.

The Indians were known for their tough physcial play and would play offense and defense for a full game. Sometimes not knowing what position they would play until gametime. The team played mainly in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri, but after winning 28 consecutive games, the team was beginning to gain national attention and were even termed the 'terrors of the midwest'. Not only were Native American athletes involved with the beginning level of professional sports, they also were examples in the business



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sense as well. The team had to travel and like any modern day sports franchise had to have financial backing. The Indian team were sponsored by Osage tribal members who had struck it in rich in the oil field, maybe their was a Jerry Jones or George Steinbrenner back then, just with names like Jerry Bighorse or George GrayEagle.

(should their be a proverbial "AAAA" inserted here)

Just when you think you've heard it all in sports, it seems as though 'steroid' use has even been found in the game of golf.

Golf, for pete's sake!

Now thats the extreme for the game called a 'gentlemen's game', it will be more like 'gentle-giant's ' game if they keep going this way. Actually, the performance enhancing drug was only used to help golfer Shaun Micheel with a medial condition and has been cleared by officials, but can you imagine a blown-up Tiger Woods on the greens. Announcer-"and here's Woods folks setting himself up for the putt to win the masters, he can't actually see the ball, due to his biceps getting in the way. Just a little putt will do it folks. Wait! It was only supposed to be a putt, but he launches a 1000 footer straight down the greenway and into the parking lot, but don't worry folks, Woods should have no problem hitting the ball back on the green at that distance." The term 'crushing the ball' takes on a whole new meaning now.

Well, again if you know of those good Creek athletes and you're not telling anyone, especially us here at the newspaper, its just not doing anybody anygood. You know, but no one else does.

The analogy is somewhat similar to an Indian joke I heard last week. Seems their was this Indian guy who really loved his girlfriend. He loved her so much, that he almost told her.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Would the elimination of aluminium bats make the game safer in all levels of baseball?

GERALD WOFFORD

First of all, it should not even be cosidered a real game or any record set or broken when an aluminum bat is in use.

Its metal, it wasn't around when the game first started and it only creates an 'illusion of accomplishment' when it is used.

Can you imagine the great Babe Ruth using an metal bat to accomplish his home-run record? I

mean the 'Louisville Slugger' might be called the 'Louisville Heavy Metal' or something to that.

Metal only needs to be used in the construction of the seats in the stands, not to hit a baseball with.

What are we going to have happen next? Coach-pitch in the Major Leagues!?

JASON SALSMAN

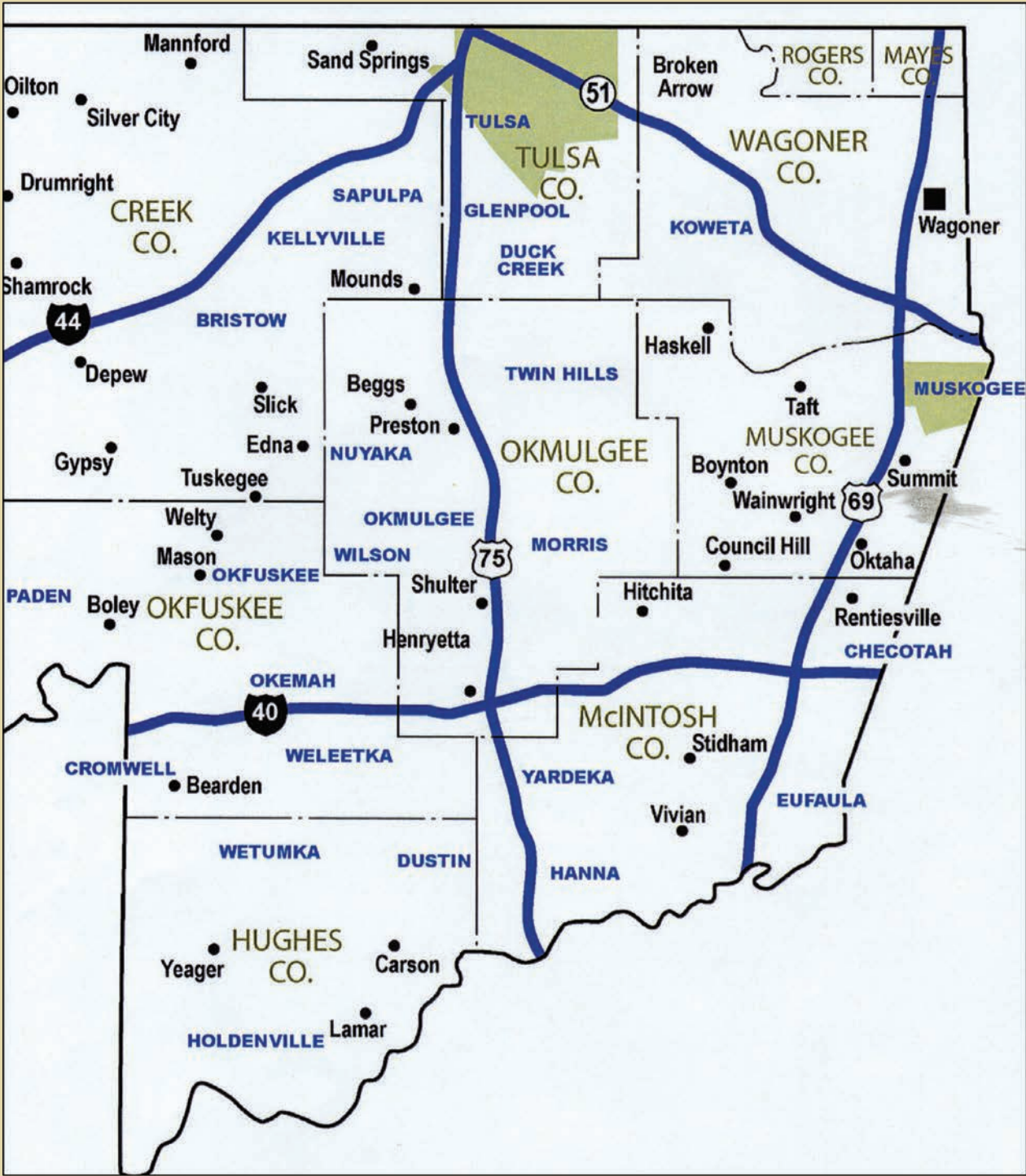
This is a tricky question for me because I never played the game, with the exception of a few American Legion wood-bat tournaments, without aluminum bats. I do believe the game would be better off going to wood bats at all levels. Batted balls have killed two people within days of one another in the past month, that means we look at ways to take such risks out of a game that is

supposed to be fun, not life threatening. Statistics have shown that balls hit with aluminum bats have greater velocity and more potential for danger. And with athletes becoming stronger and stronger with each passing day, I fear that keeping this type of equipment in play is no different than playing with a loaded gun. Nobody should ever die on a baseball field. I think we should at least take a look at a change.

CANDIDATE PROFILES

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
2007 ELECTION
VOTER INFORMATION

Seventy file for Muscogee 2007 Election



OKMULGEE — Seventy tribal citizens have officially filed for Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal election, 7 of which are unopposed. Races without contest are:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Muscogee District - | Seat A: Mose Pete Beaver |
| Okfuskee District - | Seat C: Bill Fife |
| Okmulgee District - | Seat E : James Jennings |
| Tulsa District - | Seat D: Samuel Alexander |
| Tulsa District - | Seat E: Paula Willits |
| Tulsa District - | Seat G: Robert Hufft |
| Tukvptce District- | Seat B: Thomas Yahola |

2007 Election Precincts

Creek District

- Bristow Indian Community Center
710 S. Main
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center
804 Forest Ave.

Mcintosh District

- Eufaula Indian Community Center
804 Forest Ave.
- Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center
Last road through Hanna
Turn East and go 4 miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center
8 miles SE of Henryetta
1 mile South of Salem Baptist Church

Muskogee District

- Muscogee Indian Community Center
111 South Virginia

Okfuskee

- Okemah Indian Community Center
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community
602 South Chickasaw

Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community Center
212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
8110 Highway 52

Tukvptce District

- Dustin Indian Community Center
Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center
224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center
608 North Creek

Tulsa District

- Gleenpool Indian Community Center
13839 S. Casper
Just off HWY 75
- Tulsa Indian Community Center

Wagoner District

- Koweta Indian Community
30925 E. 141 St. S.

Candidate Forum

On Tuesday September 18, 2007 at 7 pm a forum will be held for the Principal and Second Chief candidates. The forum will be in the Mound Building Auditorium. All candidates planning to participate in the forum need to contact Gerald Wofford in the office of Communications at 918-732-7635

The following is a list of deadlines for tribal voters:

- Primary Election - September 22, 2007
Precinct voter's registration closes: Sepetmber 12, 2007
- General (run-off) Election - November 3, 2007
Precinct voter's registration re-opens: September 27, 2007
Precinct voter's registration closes: October 24, 2007
- Filing Dates - July 16, 17 and 18, 2007 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Absentee Voters:
-Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out the first week of June 2007, to insure you receive a form
contact the Election Board to update your address.
Absentee Ballot Request Form Deadline: August 30, 2007 5:00 p.m.
(Absentee Ballot Request is closed on this date and will not re-open)
-An Absentee Ballot Request insure the absent voter of receiving a ballot for the Primary and General Election.
- Absentee ballot mail out: Primary Election September 4, 2007

District Court Reapportions Representatives

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — (All of the following information was taken from original court documents)
On July 13, 2007 the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) nation heard the case concerning reapportioning representatives. Plaintiffs in attendance were Allen Harjo, Eli Grayson and June Mustari represented by

Larry Oliver and Yvonne Time of the Larry Oliver Law Firm. The defendants were Nettie Harjo and Eugenia Tiger individually and members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board being represented by Brenden Ludwick of Rosette and Associates Law Firm. After hearing extensive evi-

dense from both sides, the three judge pannel ruled that; the trial was a justiciable controversy and the pannel of judges had the jurisdiction to hear the constitutional dispute of grave importance, that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution is the Supreme Law of the land and allows for reapportionment and

the Election Board is constitutionally responsible for elections. Therefore, the Court ordered the Election Board to reapportion the districts in accordance with the current citizen enrollment of 63,156. This number as supplied in the Citizenship Board's memorandum to Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

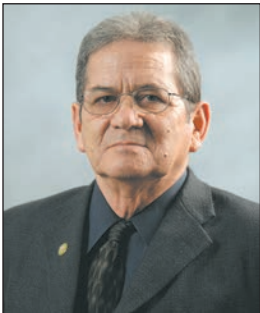
The Court found to adopt a formula provided in the Plaintiff's Exhibit #2 as complying with the one man one vote principal. The Court holds the following breakdown as supplied by the Plaintiff's Exhibit #2 for the 2007 election as the correct number of representatives per district:

Creek -	3
McIntosh-	3
Muskogee-	2
Okfuskee-	3
Okmulgee-	5
Tukvptce-	2
Tulsa-	7
Wagoner-	1
Total-	26

CANDIDATE PROFILES

PRINCIPAL CHIEF CANDIDATES

Name: A.D. Ellis
Age: 71
Clan: Turtle
Tribal Town: Locvpoka
Church: Concharty Indian Methodist Church
Family: Principal Chief Ellis married to the former Gail Billings of Morris, Oklahoma and he was born in Pawnee, Oklahoma to Doolie Ellis and Nellie (Bruner) Ellis of Concharty, Twin Hills Community. He and his family reside at his lifelong home on his mother's original allotment on Bixby Road. Chief Ellis and Gail have five daughters and five sons who reside throughout the United States.
Experience: I just want to take this opportunity to announce my intention to again, be your Principal Chief. In the last election, I was elected in the primary without a runoff. I am a four term National Council Representative, four years as Second Chief, and now four years as Principal Chief. I am not trying to be the Principal Chief, I am the Chief of this Nation and I know the responsibilities that this office demands. I could state many statistics and many numbers that prove my record has been more than successful. I make no promises, than the fact that I will continue the job of advancing this Nation and all this Nation's programs. There are many projects to finish and many more to start. Don't listen to promises and don't listen to untried people who have no previous tribal government experience. It's scary to think of bringing a stranger off the street to be a Chief.
With 16 continuous years of tribal government experience, I know tribal government and I know the Constitution that this Nation lives by. I will continue with an honest and open administration. If that's what the people wish for, for the next four years, vote for me. If you don't like what's been accomplished than vote another way.



NAME: Jeffrey Scot Fife
AGE: 34
CLAN: Wotko (Racoon)
TRIBAL TOWN: Tvkvpvtce
CHURCH: Thewarle Baptist
Experience: My service to you has covered over 14 continuous years, first as a lighthorseman, Chief Criminal Investigator and currently as a legislator for the Okmulgee District. I have extensive knowledge of the operation of our government and have always upheld the constitution of our great nation. My experiences have kept me close to the Muscogee way of life, our language, our churches, our ceremonial grounds, our communities, our lands and the day to day operations of our government. I have work experience with various officials of the state and federal governments. I have served the nation and our communities in various manners and have been a strong supporter of our youth and higher education.
I am the first graduate of the College of the Muscogee Nation with an earned associates degree of applied science; in police science. Also while employed as Chief Criminal Investigator, I received a commendation award from the United States Department of Justice for exemplary work performance, this was in recognition of my work with the Federal Bureau of Investigations.
I truly believe that my service to our nation has prepared me to hold our nation highest office. The hands on experiences that I have with hatio are well rounded. These experiences include, problem solving, negotiating, professional development, policy development, planning and law making.
My experiences with not only our government, but other governments will allow me to serve you at various levels from our national offices in Okmulgee, to the capitol of Oklahoma, and finally in Washington D.C. I will serve with the highest level of integrity; and compassion to meet the needs of our nation.
I will work with the national council, our communities, churches and ceremonial grounds; I will work for you, the entire nation.



NAME: Marc Fields
Age: 61,
Clan: Racoon
Church: Little Cussetah Baptist, Sapulpa, Ok.
Experience: I was born in the Claremore Indian Hospital. I attended Sapulpa Public Schools and lived on the Campgrounds of Little Cussetah until the age of 12 when I moved into Sapulpa with my Mother and Grandmother. After graduating from Sapulpa High School I joined the Marines in Oct. of 1964. I was stationed on both coasts and eventually went to Vietnam in 1967 and returned in Jan. 1968 with the rank of Sergeant. I am a retired Oklahoma Police Officer from my time with the Tulsa Police Department. I also have worked for Dow Chemical and lived away from the Oklahoma for many years. I was first in Dow Corporate Security then after Company training I became a Senior Instrument and Electrical Technologist. I supervised other Dow Electricians and Contractor Electricians in Dow's Technical Research Department. I retired from Dow and returned to Oklahoma in 1997. I never intended to get back into Law Enforcement but due to the opportunity and not wanting to be idle, I went to work for the Creek Nation Attorney Generals Office in Aug. 1999 as their investigator, I resigned in March 2005 to go to work for Cherokee Nation Enterprises. At present I work for Cherokee Nation Enterprises as a Loss Prevention Agent for their Casinos. I also work as a Police Officer (part time for Tulsa Community College.) I have received a degree from Tulsa Community College in Criminal Justice, and I have earned a total of 198 hours of higher education from Northeastern State University in Sociology, Paralegal Studies and Safety Education. My Mother was Marina White from Sapulpa and my Father is Johnson Fields, a World War II veteran who is still alive and from the Okmulgee area. My Maternal Grandparents were Ben White and Nettie Kernells and from the Bixby and Hitchita area. My Paternal Grandparents were Thomas (Fixico) Fields and Kizzie Sugar. My Great, Great Grandfathers were Thlotho Fixico and George Hvtke.



Name: George Tiger
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Hickory Ground
Church: Yardeka Indian Baptist Church
Family: George "Mekko" Tiger was born in the small Creek community of Yardeka, McIntosh County, Oklahoma. Tiger, a full blood Creek was born to Coody Tiger and Lela McNac Tiger. Tiger's father was a minister and served as Pastor at Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church and Yardeka Indian Baptist Church. His mother, Lela McNac Tiger, was the women's leader at Yardeka Indian Baptist Church. "I was blessed to be raised by parents who were proud of their heritage, traditions and culture of our elders", he says.
Education: He graduated from Morris High School, attended Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, Haskell Indian Junior College, and Northeastern State University.
Experience: He currently serves as the Vice-Chairman, and is past Chairman of the National Board of Regents of Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas. He represents 19 tribes, tribal towns and tribal bands in Northeastern Oklahoma. Last year Tiger was elected as Chairman of the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. He is a multi-term council representative, his peers elected him as the Speaker for the 14th Session of the National Council. Leadership and dedication to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been embedded into Tiger's life. His late grandfather, Motey Tiger, was elected in 1907 as the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. His late father, Coody, served as a Resolution Writer to the National Council. His uncle on his maternal side, George Harjo, was a member of the Advisory Council to the Nation in the 1970's. Tiger is third generation family member to serve in Creek tribal government.



PRINCIPAL CHIEF CANDIDATES CONTINUED

NAME: Jason Nichols
AGE: 30
CLAN: Racoon
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
CHURCH: St. James Presbyterian Church in Jenks
EXPERIENCE: I am very honored to have had the opportunity to serve my Nation in several capacities. I served on the Gaming Operations Authority Board from August 2002 through March 2005. In my job as a member of the GOAB I set policies and ensured profitability to this Nation. In March 2005, I became the Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Public Gaming and became the Acting Gaming Commissioner in August 2006. I led a team of regulators of this Nation to ensure honesty and integrity in accounting of all gaming dollars generated from the ten gaming establishments our tribe operates. I have also been a volunteer instructor at the College of the Muscogee Nation.
I earned my bachelor of business administration degree (with an emphasis in finance) from Northeastern State University.
I grew up in a working middle-class family in Okmulgee, the capitol of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Throughout my childhood, I watched my father serve his people as a National Council Representative, which has inspired me to become a public servant. I was taught a strong work ethic and have learned that persistency pays off. I have always paid attention to my father's sincere approach in helping people and have learned the importance of working hard for everything you have in life.
I am the son of David and Ginger Nichols of Okmulgee, OK and now live in Jenks, OK with my wife Alison, daughter Cassidy, and son Carson. My paternal grandparents are the late Joan Nichols (Fixico) of Okmulgee and the late Bobby Harjo of Weleetka. The late Bill Wall of Okmulgee and Phyllis McGown of Okmulgee are my maternal grandparents. My great great uncle was the late Daniel Harjo of Wetumka, Oklahoma.
Our Nation has persevered through many challenging times throughout our long history. We now need a leader to guide us in the right direction in the highly competitive environment we live in today. I know that through my experience coupled with my education I am capable of providing the necessary leadership to improve our services and keep our culture strong for years to come. We have the opportunity to grow our businesses and provide more career opportunities to our citizens. I believe all Creek people expect a government that is fair and I will provide fairness to ALL CREEK PEOPLE. We must remember that the choices we make today will affect generations for years to come. I truly believe every Creek citizen is a stakeholder in this Nation and I will work hand in hand with all tribal members to see this Nation move forward. I respectfully ask for your support and vote on September 22. Mvto.



SECOND CHIEF CANDIDATES

Name: Alfred Berryhill
CLAN: Alligator
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Church: Tallahassee Indian Methodist
Family: son, Gregory; daughter-in-law, Sherry; and two grandsons, Kenneth and Nicholas. Parents: Togo M. Berryhill and Lilly Belle Starr King Berryhill; David Tobe L. Berryhill and Mollyanna Jones Berryhill; and Lona Starr and Emily Smith Starr
Experience: Hensci, komakvte? I would like to take this time to thank you for your support and say that it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve you as Second Chief of the Great Muscogee Nation.
I am Deacon/Exhorter at the Tallahassee Indian Methodist church where my father was pastor. My father is of the Deer Clan.
I served as an Administrator Intern (Economic Development) for the B.I.A., Washington, D.C.; member of the Board of Trustees at Tallahassee Church and present Treasurer of the Church; Former member of the Diabetes Advisory Board; Secretary and Co-founder of Bearers of the Cross, Inc.; and the former Administrative Assistant of the Okmulgee Indian Health Center.
I am also the former Chairman of the Tribal Trade and Commerce Board and presently serve as the Chairman of the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Board. I also served as a member of the Claremore Indian Hospital Board, the Okmulgee Creek Council House Board, the Five Civilized Tribes Museum Board and briefly on the Festival Board. This coming election you will have 2 other candidates for Second Chief to choose from and I believe both of them are also capable of holding this office. It has been said that anyone can be elected to a position, but what matters is what you, as an individual, bring to the job and how you perform it. Most of my predecessors were Second chiefs in name only. By that I mean it was more or less just by title with no real responsibilities, other than what given them by the Principal Chief. Some did not even have to show up for work each day. During my term I have tried to make this a working position by providing services to citizens in need and by doing what I could to improve existing services and create new services when needed. Many of the services I would like to see have not been established, as serving on the Boards of Trade and Commerce and the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise have been very time consuming. I have always tried to manage this position from a Christian viewpoint, knowing that it is by God's grace that any of us is here.
I was reared in a family that spoke Creek, sang Creek and my father taught me to read Creek. I enjoy singing our Muscogee Hymns. I am a student of Creek history and culture.
I am a graduate of Sequoyah High School (B.I.A. boarding school), Haskell Institute and attended Oklahoma State University, majoring in business Administration.



Name: Edwin Marshall
Age: 53
Clan: Bird
Tribal town: Tukabutchee
Ceremonial Ground: Tukabutchee (inactive), Grandson of Alabama
Church: Wetumka First Assembly
Experience: I graduated from Wetumka High School and later attended East Central University where I earned a Bachelor's Degree. My first experience in tribal government was in 1994 as a Social Worker with the Seminole Nation. Also during that time, I was appointed to the Muscogee Nation Election Board and later became the Chairman. In 1995, I was elected as a National Council Representative from Tukvpvtce District. During that tenure (1996), Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver appointed me Deputy Director, Division of Community Services. I served there until 2001 and then became the Economic Development Coordinator for the tribe. In 2003, with the creation of the Trade & Commerce Authority and Muscogee Nation Business Enterprises, I stepped down and took a position with the Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town as Director of Community & Tribal Development. I am currently back with the Seminole Nation and am also Chairman of the Wetumka Indian Community. With additional specialized training and experience in areas such as federal regulations, tribal management, economic development, housing, healthcare, family services and fiscal management, I feel that I am (by far) the most qualified candidate.
The Second Chief, like the Vice President, is only a heartbeat away from the leadership of the 4th largest Tribal Nation in the United States. With an enrollment of over 63,000 and an overall annual budget in excess of 130 million dollars (\$130,000,000), the Muscogee (Creek) Nation commands and deserves the most experienced and qualified elected leadership. It is also of utmost importance that these intra-tribal entities operate in unison toward a common goal, the best interest of the tribal citizen. With continuous external adversity and constant threats to our tribal sovereignty, we can not afford to go by the way of internal disintegration brought about by self will, political partisanship and jealousies. These things can be averted when the citizens vote for progressive, responsible and qualified leadership. The days of meaningless rhetoric and good intentions by politicians must come to an end in favor of qualifications, experience and proven track records.
Finally, no discussion could be complete without an understanding of my personal background. I was born in the Talihiina Indian Hospital and grew up in my Grandfather's home near Sand Creek Church where he was a Pastor. I am directly descended from Opoethleyahola, the historic Creek leader and was raised in the most cultural, traditional ways. We burned kerosene for light, wood for heat and cooking, and hauled water for washing, bathing and drinking. We only spoke Creek in our home. I have no memories of my grandmother ever speaking two sentences in English. She did have the foresight to teach me to read and write the language before I entered school. I was taught history, traditions and lived the culture of my people. I say all this to enlighten you; I am not only enrolled Muscogee, I live as a Muscogee. Experienced, Qualified and Capable, compare the candidates and I believe the choice is clear: Vote for Edwin Marshall for Second Chief!



Name: Lucas Taylor
Age: 36
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Fishpond
Church: Dewar United Pentecostal Church
Family: spouse, Stefanie, daughter, Alissa and son Michael
Education: Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication from Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, OK
Reason for seeking office: The second chief must be a determined and compassionate advocate and leader for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN). I have lived my entire life in the heart of Creek Country. I have over ten years of experience with various tribal programs within MCN. This afforded me the opportunity to gain invaluable knowledge and business skills to work for our tribal citizens. In 2005, I founded an organization to provide Indian youth with leadership programs, character building and direction to become leaders of the future. The "4 Love of the Game" organization created educational grants for 20 high school seniors to receive a potential amount of \$700,000 in scholarships and earn college degrees. After becoming the Communications Manager, I implemented a multi-faceted communications program. We produce a monthly 20-page, full color, readable and diverse publication and added new sectional information that helps preserve our culture/language, recognizes the skills and talents of our Creek artists, and disseminates tribal service information to 7,000 subscribers. We also added a professional photo studio that offers a senior picture package to our families at a very affordable price; produced memorial folders for bereaved Creek families at no cost; created a weekly PSA television program; created a graphic design center to help tribal programs and an advertising division that to generate income to be self-sufficient. Our Communication department and staff have gained tribal, state and national recognition for printing services and for major events such as NACEA, NCAI, United Vote and the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). As Second Chief, I want to help ensure that MNBE, our tribal 8(a) small business entity adheres and complies with the SBA regulations and legislation. Being a tribal 8(a) offers the tribe a great business and profit potential. Under Trade and Commerce, I want to review all of its businesses, make recommendations and increase their profitability. I would also aggressively pursue creating a Tribal Employment Rights Organization with new tribal ordinances. A TERO program for the Tribe would allow us to generate profits by issuing licenses, permits, and certifications and require that our tribal citizens be first employed and trained and that our Creek vendors would be given the first chance to subcontract with prime contractors for Creek projects. As Second Chief, I will use my education and experience to assist and support the Office of the Principal Chief. For instance, tribal programs awarded pursuant to PL 93-638, the Self Determination Act, like our health division, education programs and other tribal programs never receive enough funding to meet the increasing demands/needs and inflationary costs; therefore, we need to find ways to be more supportive and generate new funds. I will aggressively pursue third party billing/claims for reimbursement to be directed back into the health programs. In closing, as Second Chief, I would be a liaison to the Principal Chief, a leader in economic development and a public servant to Creek citizens. Mvto.




CANDIDATE PROFILES


CREEK DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Seat A: (Incumbent)
Name: Duke Harjo
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Alabama
Church: High Spring Indian Baptist Church
Experience: Muscogee (Creek) National Council, eight years. I have enjoyed every minute of that time served as a councilman representing the Great Citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Creek District.
All my years as a councilman have been very productive and I have been successful in all aspects of being a National Council Member.
I would like very much to continue to serve you as your Creek District Representative.
A productive and successful Representative means more benefits for YOU!!

Thank you very much.
Respectfully
Duke Harjo
Creek District Representative
Muscogee (Creek) National Council




Seat C
Name: Betty Pulver
Age: 58
Clan: Wind
Church: Covenant Harvest Ministries
Education: Sapulpa High School; Sequoyah Indian School and Claremore Junior College
Employment: Americorps Vista two years, National Faith Base Program, St. Joseph; and Ministry work
Experience: I am 4/4 creek Indian. I have lived in Sapulpa over 50 years. I am a wife, mother and grandmother. My husband, Alan and I do ministry work in the area of Sapulpa and surrounding area. I understand the creek language and speak very little. I was raised by my grandmother Lucinda Watashe whose first language was creek; was taught the creek tradition and creek hymns.
I have worked with the Creek District concerning issues that needed immediate attention regarding housing, employment or education information.
I volunteer in the community of Sapulpa and surrounding areas in all types of jobs, assisting the needs of the creek people.
I encourage all creek voters to vote!!! Assisting the people is my full time job which I enjoy very much it is a blessing to be able to help people in need. Mvto.



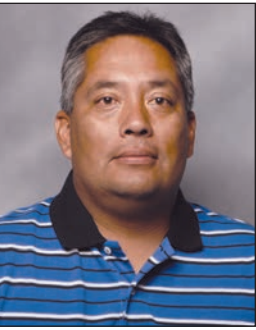
McINTOSH DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Seat A
Name: Tommy Pickering
Age: 51
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: Hichiti
Church: West Eufaula

Experience: Elected to the National Council for nine terms. Served as chairman for various committees on tribal council. Very experienced in the areas of health, education, social programs, economic development and all various functions of the tribal government operations. Over the past few years there have been many jobs created in the McIntosh District through the communities and the tribe. Our communities have benefitted our people by our community leaders and good representation. Wrote and sponsored legislation in 1995 to help and assist citizens outside the tribal boundaries, which is still in place today.




Seat A
Name: Darrell Proctor
Age: 41
Clan: Deer “ECOVLKE”
Church: Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church
Family: wife, Robin and three children, Kelsey, Amberly, and Darrell II. My mother is Minnie (Proctor) Cannon, and my grandparents are the late Andy and Judy (Lasley) Proctor.
Experience: I serve as a Deacon, Sunday School Director, and Treasurer for the Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church, and am a member of the Budget Committee for the MSW Baptist Association.
I graduated from Hanna High School and received an Associates Degree in Computer Integrated Systems Service from OSU Okmulgee. My continued education is centered on information technology and I have advanced my education through various training and research. My 20 years experience working in maintenance in electronics and instrumentation controls has taught me the value of teamwork. I focus on the importance of verbal and written communications to achieve common goals and objectives.
I am a strong supporter of our younger generations, as well as the elders of our communities. After becoming a sponsor of the Hanna School Creek Challenge Bowl teams, I realized the importance of promoting the studies of the MCN history, culture, and government. While studying to gain greater knowledge of the MCN government and language, I became aware of the need to become an active representative for the McIntosh District.
I encourage all registered voters to vote in the upcoming election. MVTO.




Seat B
Name: Wilson Bear
Age: 64
Clan: Bear
Church/Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Eufaulagee-Canadian

Experience: Wilson Bear of Checotah is a candidate for the Creek Nation National Council, seat “B” and seeks the support of all voters in the McIntosh County District.
Bear possesses the expertise to implement change where needed, and the prudence to improve on areas that only need a little polish. He is old enough to bring wisdom and maturity to the Creek Nation, yet young enough to show ambition, and desire for improvement and the ability to work with everybody. Bear's education consists of Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology and Sociology.
He served in the United States Army during the conflict of Vietnam and received an Honorable Discharge.
Bear will have an open door policy and hopes to meet with many citizens so that he may listen to their concerns.
If you are accidentally missed please feel free to call me at home (918) 473-5594.




Seat B
Name: Adam Jones III
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Koweta
Church: Little Coweta Indian Baptist
Experience: Adam graduated with an Associates Degree in Business from Connor's State College. His work experience includes working as the Assistant Administrator of the Country Care Home Health and working for 10 years at the Bank of Eufaula, formerly State National Bank. He is a very kind and considerate man, who never meets a stranger. He always has time to stop and help anyone in need.
He is one of the first people you will find when it comes time to aid an elder.
Reason for seeking Office: I have always been interested in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and it has been one of my goals to become more active in the Tribal government. I decided that now was the best time to start. Being a lifelong resident of McIntosh County, I have seen first hand how much the Nation has done. I am not talking about just McIntosh County, but the entire Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I want to ensure that my children will be as fortunate as I am to see how this nation of Mvskoke people has survived. My primary concerns are healthcare for our elderly citizens, education for our future leaders, and equal representation for all citizens. I want to see the Nation become more proactive in seeking other avenues for generating tribal funds. I am ready for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be the first tribe that comes to mind when talking about progress and tribal industry rather than the last. I appreciate your vote and support on September 22, 2007. Mvto.




Seat C
Name: Roger Barnett of Bristow
Age: 46
Family: son, Eco; daughters, Chenoa & April
Clan: Wind
Church: Concharty United Methodist Church
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Kvnicate (Concharty)

Experience: The past sessions of serving as the representative for the Creek District has brought many challenges. I feel that I have met each one the best way possible. I take being a representative very serious and every request asked of me in the same manner. I bring experience and dedication to the Nation and the citizens. I have been blessed to be able to serve the citizens and this Great Nation. Your support during this upcoming election is very much appreciated.
Mvto and may God bless you and your families.



Seat B
Name: Anthony Notaro
Age: 48
Clan: Tiger
Tribal Town: Tuskegee
Church: First Baptist Church Eufaula
Experience: I have served two terms on the National Council and find it just as enjoyable as the first day. It is with great respect and humility for our people that I proudly serve. It is my vision for our nation to grow and prosper and become the most dedicated to our people. With my extensive business knowledge and my positive aggressive approach, I feel that we as a nation and as a people, will achieve even more greatness. I believe that with my experience with our government, and with my experience with our government and with my business experience with our government, and with my business experience I have an outstanding work ethic and will make the most informed and best decisions for this great Muscogee Nation. We as a nation must think long term investments. I firmly believe in being decisive and expedient in my actions. It is the thought process that will help better our lives, and bring prosperity to our nation. With the support and prayers from you, and the guidance and direction from the creator, I will try my hardest to serve our great nation in my utmost best. Mvto.



CANDIDATE PROFILES

McINTOSH DISTRICT CANDIDATES continued

Seat C
Name: Selina Jayne-Dornan
Age: 50
Clan: Wotko (Raccoon)
Church: Big Arbor
Family: mother, Janetta (Lewis) Walker; grandmother, Salina Mitchell and great grandparents, Lewis & Billie Mitchell
Education: Associate of Speech & Drama from EOSC; two years of Speech & Theatre Education from OSU Licensed Esthetician
Experience: Owner of “Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio” and “Elegance Spa & Salon” in Eufaula. Executive Secretary to Executive Director of MCN. Executive Assistant/Manager of “Seven Hills Pictures” company. Associate Producer of \$13 million dollar film “Stateside”. Budgeted, scheduled and created makeup for several films as Department Head of Makeup. Developed and produced several music video’s and digital films with my production company “Creek Girl Productions”. Trustee and Co-Founder of “First Americans in the Arts” a non-profit organization in LA, developed to honor Native American talent. Served on several civic and community organizations in the past such as the President of Bristow “Arts & Humanities Council”. Currently a member of the Eufaula Chamber of Commerce and Eufaula Indian Community. Conducted and volunteered time for many children’s workshops and training. PTA Star Program, touring schools, performing storytelling and a one-woman show on the “Creek” traditions. Entertainment Coordinator for two years for the MCN Festival.
I have diverse background of life experiences, education and work experience that can benefit our people. I have extensive experience in budgeting, creating funding and programs. With the guidance of God, I will strive to serve out great nation with dignity, pride, new ideas, new vision and a new energy that will compliment the fast pace and heights to which MCN has risen. Let us never forget where came from (our elders), where we are going (our youth) and those who paved the way (our veterans).



Seat C: (INCUMBENT)
Name: Thomas McIntosh
Experience: My first priority has always been to support and vote for what I thought best for the Creek people in our District and will continue to do so. I have always made myself available to help anyone when needed. I have the time, respect of my fellow representative and experience to be an effective representative for our District



MUSCOGEE DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Seat A: (INCUMBENT/UNOPPOSED)
Name: Mose Pete Beaver
Age: 61
Clan: Deer
Church: Big Cussetah Indian United Methodist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Weogukfee
Family: wife, Bridget; son John; parents, John and Della Beaver
Experience: 15 years in public education, Tulsa, Bixby, Okmulgee Public Schools; Director of Counseling, Connors State College; 22 years as an administrator in the Indian Education Section, Oklahoma State Department of Education; worked with administrators and parents providing technical assistance for funding and interpretation of State and National policies; liaison between State Department and Tribal offices; coauthored Native Americans: Leaders in the 21st Century, a statewide plan approved by the Oklahoma State Board of Education to certify Native American Languages as credit courses in Oklahoma Public Schools; 10 years as designee of State Department of Education on the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission; Oklahoma State Department of Education representatie, Council of Chief State School Officers; chairman of the Board of Trustees, Big Cussetah Indian United Methodist Church; greater Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission of the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce 2004 Renard Strickland Education Leadership Award; B.S. in Education; and M.S. in Counseling & Administration, NSU.



Seat B: (INCUMBENT)
Name: Eddie LaGrone
Age: 54
Clan: Katcvlke
Tribal Town: Tuckabatchee
Experience: I have 30 years of accomplished and significant experience in Tribal Government Operations. I negotiated with the USDA and implemented the first Tribal Food Commodity program in the state of Oklahoma. I served for 17 years as a Tribal assisted Tribal governments in PL 93-638 program contracting and administration, and conducted Self-Governance Compact negotiations. I served as a Certified Department of Interior Mediator on civil cases. I was appointed as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Policy Analyst to the Principal Chief, providing expert advice on Tribal Sovereignty, the protection of tribal resources, and inter-governmental relations. In the capacity I also drafted Bills and Resolutions for Muscogee (Creek) National enactment. I planned, implemented, and negotiated the first Self-Governance Compact and Annual Funding Agreement for the Muscogee Nation. I organized and created the first Muscogee Nation Historic Preservation Office. I served on the Muscogee Nation Trade and Commerce Authority Board of Directors. I served on the Muscogee Indian Community Board of Directors and enjoy active participation in Community activities. My education compliments my Tribal Affairs experience: A.A. in Accounting, B.A. in Business Administration with emphasis in Economics, M.B.A. in progress with emphasis in sovereignty, Tribal taxation, Tribal regulatory jurisdiction, Federal Indian law, Tribal criminal and civil jurisdiction, and extensive experience with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s legislative process.



Seat B
Name: Sandra Parish
Age: 44
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Butler Creek
Family: husband, Larry; children, Wesley, Joshua, Cheyanna and Laranda; one grand baby
Experience: two terms on the National Council; Associate’s Degree in Accounting; eight years working for the Department of Corrections as a Correctional Officer; three years with Tulsa City-County Health Department; served on several committees with the Tribe and City of Muskogee and currently employed with the Muskogee casino. I hope to serve as your district representative.



OKFUSKEE DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Seat A:
Name: Sherryl Gonseth
Age: 53
Clan: Wind
Family: Married 35 years with two children and four grandchildren
Experience: Over 25 years of experience with Federal, Tribal and Private Sector and Agencies, which included working with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for 11 years, four years private sector and 10 years as Independent Consultant in which I was selected from a National Data base, to serve on Federal Reviews with the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Youth and Families Washington DC., including the American Indian and Alaskan Native Programs. I worked with the Ponca Tribe for two years including holding the position as Executive Director, responsible for total tribal operations, including development of an administrative structure for seven divisions of Tribal Services; Community Services, Human Resource; Tribal Affairs (Procurement); Child and Family Services; Environmental Services; Finance and oversight of the Health Services (Clinic). As you’re representative I will work hard to support our health care system improving accessible health care services to expand on our existing health system facilities and programs such as clinical services, diabetic services, contract health services, and hospital services. I will work hard to be responsive to the total well-being of our citizens and communities in all areas including. Health, Education, Housing, Social Services, Child Care needs, Foster Care, Veterans. Most of all I bring Commitment, knowledge and experience with Tribal, Federal and State requirements and would make a positive impact for our citizens.



Seat A: (INCUMBENT)
Name: Travis Scott
Age: 32
Clan: Wind
Church: Wetumka Indian Baptist
Tribal Town: Kialegee
Experience: Government- Served two years as Okfuskee National Council Representative Seat A and appointed to Community Services Committee. Graduate of Okemah High School and attended Seminole State College, Seminole, Oklahoma. I am married to Allison (Davis) Scott, we have two children and live in Okemah.
Throughout my term as Council Representative I concentrated my efforts toward supporting and establishing legislation that promotes services and programs that benefit our citizens. In my last campaign I pledged to listen to your concerns and satisfy them in a timely and appropriate manner. We resolved these issues by prioritizing our needs and hard work.
Unfortunately other issues remain, and to resolve them will require experience and the desire to achieve our goals. I believe my Council experience and personal commitment will benefit tribal citizens living within or outside the Nation.



OKFUSKEE DISTRICT CANDIDATES continued

Seat B: (INCUMBENT)
Name: Lena Wind
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Alabama
Family: daughter of the late Rev. James and Barbara Wind, two children, Famous and Sunnie Marshall; four grandchildren, Anna, Brina, Chasity, Rhett, Whitney, Tafv and Dominic
Education: Associated Degree from Seminole State College; B.S. Ed NSU, Tahlaquah, Oklahoma; M.A. ED OCU, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Experience: Public school teacher for five years, 18 years tribal programs, 11 years administrative experience, developed/directed Indian Child Welfare Program/P.S.S.F./ Foster Care/Adoption Programs/Child Care Programs developed Youth Conference/Trainings Tribal and Inter-Tribal served on the Okemah Indian Community Board as Chairman; served on Muskogee (Creek) Nation Health Board; served on AQTT Economic Development Board; experienced grant writer. Vote WIND AGAIN in 2007!



Seat B
Name: Percy Dug Sharp
Age: 48
Clan: Bear
Church: Okemah Pentecostal Holiness
Experience: I’ve attended school at Northeastern State University (approximately three years) and then transferred to Oklahoma State University. I currently work for the Creek Nation Housing Department (although now, I’ve been placed on unpaid leave, in order to run for the National Council). For the past five years I have served on the Okemah Indian Education Committee, for the Okemah Public School (four years as Chairman and one year as a committee member). I’ve also been on the city of Okemah’s Century Committee (as part of the Economic Development Sub-Committee). I have also taken courses in grant writing and leadership. Okemah has been my family’s home for generations and it’s where my roots are. I have seen the challenges that a small community faces, particularly in the areas of employment and health care services. I want to help make a positive difference for my community and make it a place where families and hopefully our children’s families can make a decent living. The future lies with our youth, so let’s make the proper choice today that will help them realize and develop their full potential. Help make a difference and Vote!



Seat C: (INCUMBENT/UNOPPOSED)
Name: Bill Fife
Age: 65
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Thlewarle Baptist
Tribal Town: Tuckabachee
Family: Wife Mary, children: Jeff and wife Thomasene; daughter Cinda and husband Chris, five grandchildren; parentd, the late James and Carmen Fife.
Experience: Served 13 years as an elected official of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Employed 15 years in tribal government. Served in U.S. Army Signal Corps, Vietnam Veteran. Graduated from college with Bachelors and Masters degree in Education.



OKMULGEE DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Seat A:
Name: Etta M. Checotah
Age: 60
Church: Belvin Baptist
Family: Late husband Everett Checotah; son, Daniel; four daughters, Anglea, Lisa, Tammy and Pamela. Parents, the late Amos and Elizabeth (Yargee) Starr of Henry-etta
Experience: As a child I attended Jones academy, I attended Haskell Institute (Lawrence, KS) and graduated in 1965 and was part of the last graduating high school class from Haskell Institute, I have also obtained my Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Associate of Science in Criminal Justice, teacher at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Development for six years. I began as a homemaker caring for my children until they were grown and on their own. I have one years of nursing L.P.N. at Oklahoma State Technical School, I was chairperson for Okmulgee Indian Community for two years, C.A.S.A. volunteer for one year, Worked at O.M.H. as a O.B. tech and St. Francis as a nurse aide, I have also served as a J.O.M. chair person. It has always been a dream of mine to be a representative I will be progressive and dedicated. I am a person that does not quit until the jobs is finished I will focus my every effort toward enhancing programs and provide equal representation to those areas lacking tribal interest. I welcome your thoughts and ideas and know that together we can make a difference. I appreciate the opportunity to serve the people and I respectfully ask for your vote in the upcoming election for the National Council Representative on September 22, 2007.
May God Bless you and yours. Mvto!



Seat A:
Name: Joe Sunday Jackson, Master Sergeant U.S. Air Force (Retired)
Age: 63
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Ceremonial Ground: Hillabee
Experience: My parents were Ochcunpulla and Louella (Red) Jackson from Hanna. I came from a large family of nine brothers and three sisters. I have been married to Flora (Carpitcher) Jackson for twenty-eight years. I have five daughters, four grandchildren and one great granddaughter.
We have an opportunity to work together to ensure a future that is grounded in our strengths as Muscogee people as well as future that can stand tall in both worlds. We are all a part of this process, and I wish to serve you as your Council Representative in Seat A.
There is immense potential in our great nation. I am convinced that there are great minds amongst our people that will elevate the quality of life of our people and the outside world with the values embodied within our traditional culture.
During my 22 years in the service and as the former director of housing for the Nation, experience has taught me the value of Organization, Responsibility, and Accountability. As a grandparent, I see that the future of our young people is in our hands. We have the opportunity and responsibility to build a stronger foundation and to become a self-sufficient nation. I am ready to be a part of this process.
Fairness is at the heart of why I wish to serve on the National Council in Seat A. MVTO - Joe Jackson



Seat A: (INCUMBENT)
Name: Robert Jones
Age: 63
Clan: Deer
Church: Belvin Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka
Experience: Hensci! Greetings to all. First of all, I would like for you to know that I thank God for restoring my life in order that I fulfill my commitment to the Creek Citizens.
My deceased parents are Elmer and Elsie (Roberts) Jones.
My compassion and commitment is to be of service to the my creek people. My 3 1/2 years plus has showed that I can help creek citizens regardless of residence.
Being Vietnam combat veteran I am fully supportive of veterans of this great Creek Nation.
Our voice is being heard on the National Council I will continue the battle there. One desire is to have a productive working relationship with office of the Tribal Chief and Second Chief.
We are one people, therefore I will work to mediate problems that may arise within the tribe.
Sovereignty. I will continue to uphold the sacredness of our Sovereignty. Have sucessfully helped the elders with their plumbing and housing needs. Have sucessfully helped with the needs of the communities. Have sucessfully helped with appropriations for our health system. Have sucessfully helped with appropriations for our students in order they may someday return and work for their creek tribe.
In closing may I ask you to be thoughtful of one another. Some one another as the creator intended. We are the Great Creek Nation. I humbly ask for your vote in September. Let me continue to be your strong voice to national council. Mvto.



CANDIDATE PROFILES

OKMULGEE DISTRICT CANDIDATES continued

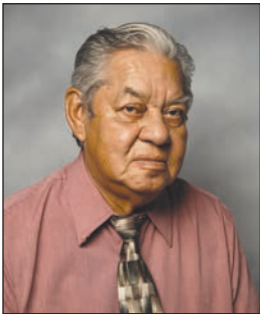
Seat A:
Name: David Nichols
Age: 51
Tribal Town: Tuckabatchee
Church: Salt Creek United Indian Methodist
Clan: Racoon
Experience: I feel my past tenure from serving on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council from January 1994 to December 2005 (12 years, six terms) qualifies me to serve as your representative for the Okmulgee District. Experience and courage is a must when addressing the many concerns and laws that govern our Nation. Each law when adopted can have either a positive or negative impact on the Nation.
While serving my past terms I was elected by my peers to serve two terms as the sergeant of arms to the National Council. I was also elected as chairman to two committees, the tribal affairs committee and the human development committee. I served two terms as chairman and one term as vice chair on the community services committee. I served as chairman of the human development committee for one term and served as vice chairman for one term.
I feel my experience would be beneficial and vital in helping to mentor newly incoming representatives who may have never served in the capacity of National Council Representative. The first two years as a representative can truly be difficult and is a learning experience.
My past record will reflect my ability to vocalize and debate legislation that I was for and against during committee meetings and on the floor of the Regular Session. I feel before legislation become law each representative should completely understand the effects of the law being passed that will affect the lives of each tribal citizen in some way. If elected I bring to you the citizen and the Nation honesty, experience and proven leadership.
Mvto, David Nichols



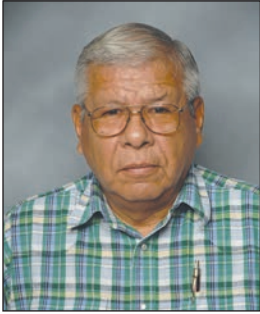
Seat B:
Name: Theodore (Ted) Isham
Age: 51
Clan: Wind (hotkvke)
Tribal Town: Tulmachusse (tvlmucvse)
Ceremonial Ground: Hillabee (helape)
Experience: Ted Isham cvhocekvf os. Este Mvskokvke toyis ci. Hotvkvke mvmliket os monton tvlmucvse vmetvltvt os momen Helape Kvnite vncokorakkot os
I respectfully submit my name for election to Seat B-Okmulgee District. My grandparents, Cheparney 'fuco' Davis and Martha Bruner Davis, raised two of my eight siblings and me when my mother Christine (Davis) Wolfe was living in Chicago as part of the relocation program. I have been married for 32 years to Debra (Factor) and have two daughters and six grandchildren all of the Bear clan.
I have been the Curator for the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee for six years and work in the very symbol of our government, the Creek Council House. Through my work and interests, I have developed a great appreciation of the historic and powerful nature of the Mvskoke etvlwv. I have been active in the community as a Mvskoke Language worker and a lifelong student of the language. In my work I have had the unique viewpoint of working with Tribal and community programs and projects, while not actually being a Tribal employee. I have also worked on state/national tribal museum and historical projects.
It is urgent to hold onto and nurture all that makes us Creek, even as the Tribe must function as a high level corporation. If elected, I will remember the honorable ways that our people handled matters long ago and consider the impact that actions taken today will have on our people in the next generations.
Mvto cekickvkis ci!
Ted Isham



Seat B:
Name: Keeper Johnson
Age: 68
Church: Belvin Baptist
Clan: Katcv-Tiger
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Cowetv/Greenleaf
Family: wife, Martha Washee Johnson; children, Keeper Johnson Jr. and Rojer Johnson and four grandchildren; parents Habor Johnson and Bettie McHenry Johnson
Experience: Education-High School, fort Sill Indian School, Lawton; Bachelor's Degree, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky; Master's Degree, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater; Military Service-Honorable Discharge, United States Army from 1961-1964, Army Medical Research Laboratory, Fort Knox, Kentucky; Employed for the State of Oklahoma for twenty-eight years as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. My experiences are in Health, Education Vocational Counseling, Guidance, 4-H Clubs, Boy Scout Leader, Youth Basketball and other activities. I have participated in the Okmulgee Community Lions Club and as chairman in a community Johnson O'Malley program. I was previously a chairman at the Housing Authority and one of at the Board of Directors during the era of the construction of the new Claremore Indian Hospital. I am a very active member of Belvin Baptist Church.



Seat B:
Name: Wilbert Lowe
Age: 61
Church: Arbeka Indian Baptist
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Experience: I graduated from Wilson High School in 1964 and volunteered for Military Service in November of 1964. I received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army in November of 1967. In May of 1968 I started working for Tinker Air Force Base, Midwest City, OK. I retired from Civil Service after serving 29 years of Federal Service. Four years after retirement I worked a couple of years for Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, and in the year 2000 I gained employment with the MCN Realty Department and recently have taken a leave of absence. My decision to run for a seat on the National Council is very personal to me. While working for the MCN Realty Dept. I have watched our citizen suffer in many different ways. It is unfortunate that creek citizens needs are not being met because they simply don't know who to ask. I believe that a council representative should get out and meet with the tribal members, especially our elders. I believe I will be a good voice for these folks. One shouldn't have to "know someone" in order to receive assistance. I believe that it is time for a change and I want to be a part of that change. Mvto.

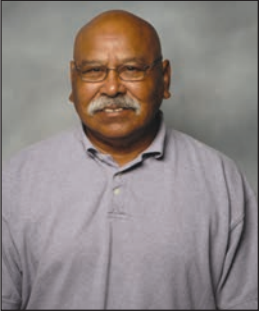


Seat B:
Name: Lanissa Jack-Melton
Age: 28
Clan: Skunk
Family: Husband, Christopher; three sons, Dylan, Ryan and Nathaniel Melton; grandparents, Louma Pigeon Jack of Dustin and the late Mitchell Jack
Education: I graduated from Dustin Public School. I am a full time student at two major universities. I expect to graduate in April from Oklahoma State University with an Applied Associated Sciences in Precision Agriculture Technology. At the same time, I am working on my Bachelors degree with a double major in Science in Business Management and Precision Agriculture Technology.
Experience: I have several years of experience within the Muscogee Creek Nation. I am a very intelligent person who is knowledgeable with the Policy and Procedures of this nation. During my employment, I worked in the Realty Trust Services Department as the Land Analyst Coordinator. I was also employed with the Nation as the Acting Director of Tourism and Recreation.
Degree Certification Completed: Participatory Mapping GIS/GPS (Geographical Information System/Global Positioning Satellites, Basic Heritage Resource Technician Course. U.S. Department of Agriculture Nationally Registered and U.S. Forestry Services. Professional Ethics, Surveyor Information the Internet & Writing and Understanding Legal Descriptions. State and Local Governments as Preservation Partners in Oklahoma: The CLG Program. Guidelines and Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Building. The Section 106 Process. The National Register of Historic Places. Advanced Acquisition & Disposal on Federal Indian Lands. Acquisition & Disposal on Federal Indian Lands. Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) & NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA) ASTM Standard E 1527-00 & National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Legal Land Descriptions and basic math.



OKMULGEE DISTRICT CANDIDATES continued

Seat C:
Name: Terrie Anderson
Clan: Wind
Grounds: Big Cussetah
Family: daughter of Barbara Lane and Mike Endres, Morris; grandmother are Dorothy Pinezaddleby, Okmulgee and Ruth Endres, Preston
Experience: I was raised in Preston, OK. After graduating HS, I moved to Norman, OK where I received my bachelor's degree in Social Work. Later, I moved back to Okmulgee when I started working for the tribe while completing my Masters degree in Public Health Administration and Policy.
Currently, I reside in Morris, OK with my husband, Dr. Zachariah Anderson and my two step sons, Nathan and Isaiah and our two children, Tarin and Hayden. I strongly feel that my greatest contribution I could offer the National Council would be my writing and researching skills, which will aid in reviewing and writing new legislation. Additionally, with my education I will be able to ensure that governing programs are following reviewed and updated policy and procedures. I really enjoy performing research and visiting with tribal members about the care they receive from the tribe. I invite anyone who has concerns to call me as I want to hear the needs of the people. I have particular interests in child care, social services, job security, and health programs. I feel that I can provide educated and inspirational leadership in these areas and I strongly encourage the younger generation to be more involved. Also, I feel strongly that the National Council should emphasize team management as peacekeepers through gentle instruction. This would greatly benefit the betterment of the people since time is of the essence. Last, but not least, I will be in constant prayer for the welfare of the creek people.
Seat C:
Name: Jim Harjo
Age: 60
Clan: Bear
Church: High Spring
Tribal Town: Alabama-Quassarte
Ceremonial Ground: Alabama
Experience: National Council 93-94, National Council 94-96, National Council 98-2000, served on Tribal Affairs committee, community services committee, cultural and Human Development Committee, served on the Tribal Town Governing Committee, Tribal Town Housing Board and the Creek Nation Housing Board.
My platform is back to basics: Representing the citizens. The original intent of the National Council representative is to be the voice of the people and I want to be that voice. I'll be there to help all creek citizens.



Seat C:
Name: Glen Jones
Age: 57
Clan: Beaver
Church: Methodist
Experience: If elected to the council: I will do my best to serve the creek citizens to the best of my knowledge and with good common sense, I feel I can work with the council and the Principal Chief. Mvto.



Seat C:
Name: Sandra Peters
Age: 62
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground/Church: Arbeka-Tulledaga
Family: sons, Marion Reuben and Dr. Justus Turner Peters; daughters, Elizabeth Anne and Rebecca Yonder Peters; parents, the late Reuben Riley Turner and Fannie Mae Cook Turner
Education: A.A. Bacone College; B.A. Northeastern State University; Graduate studies: Arizona Western College and Grand Canyon State
Employment: Currently, Director of Alumni/Tribal Relations Bacone College (2001-2007); Capital Campaign Director, Bacone College; Music/Choral Director, Bacone College National Council member 2000-2004; Johnson O'Malley Field Specialist Muscogee (Creek) Nation, seven years; owned own business in promotions and Insurance Brokerage.
Experience: Blessing and favor to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, my family and supporters. I am thankful to be running for National Council and believe it will be an honor to serve you. We were once a great confederacy spread over the Southeastern United States. Today, I believe we can be one of the great nations of the world, with a strong balance of powers in our government, working together as a unit. Leadership is the key to any successful government and without that we fail our people. I served in 2000-2004 as your National Council Representative in Okmulgee District believing that we had to be self-governing, competitive in the commercial markets, profiting our tribe and not raping its benefits. All capitol gained were to be invested into our elderly programs, our health care, the support and retention of our language and culture, funding for the education of our children, and scholarships for college students, our future leaders. Today, I feel just as strongly that every aspect of our government needs to reassess its goals, focusing primarily on our people, stretching ourselves to greater limits of efficient service, and advancing the general prosperity of our Nation. Mvto!



Seat C:
Name: Marcus Proctor
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground Church: Tallahassee - Wykokaye / Nuyaka Baptist
Experience: As National Council Representatives: I would focus on equality for all citizens regarding the services that the tribe provides. I would conduct myself in the manner that would be becoming for a National Council Representatives and not intentional try to embarrass this Nation or its leadership. As a former MCN employee, I understand fully the plight of citizen's who work for this Nation and the difficulty in keeping focused on their jobs. I also believe that this nation is a great nation and I want to give my time and talents to making it an even better place to work, to be a citizen of and a leader among tribes in economic development.
As a Muscogee (Creek) citizen. My concerns are that our Nation is without dedication, responsibility, and most importantly unity. Our nation was once a strong and powerful Nation. There is no reason this great Nation cannot bring back the power, unity, responsibility and dedication that our ancestors gave their lives for. Decisions making, fate of the future and the rights of all citizens were discussed by all tribal members and no one was left out. As a Council Representative I will not only dedicate myself to the Okmulgee community, but all citizens of this great Nation. Healthcare, education, economic development, continued traditional strength, tribal unity and constitutional accountability is what I will bring to the table. Tribal citizens make up a strong powerful Nation, not just the leaders. Mvto!



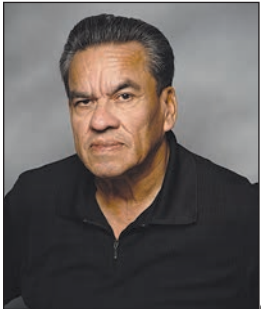
Seat D:
Name: Carmin S. Tecumseh
Age: 38
Family: Son, Logan Blaine Gore, age 9
Parents: Elsie (Harjo/Lowe) Tecumseh, Simeon Lee Sr., and the late Nero Louis Tecumseh Sr.
Clan: Alligator
Church: Silver Spring Baptist Church, Henryetta (Home church). Currently member of Belvin Baptist Church, Okmulgee
Experience: 15 years experience working for Tribal, State, and County agencies. Recent employment: Circles of Care Project Director, MCN Behavioral Health (2006-2007); Indian Child Welfare Program Coordinator, MCN Children and Family Services Administration (2002-2006). Currently employed with Cherokee Nation Children, Youth, and Families Services. Education: Master's Degree, Human Relations-Organizational Development, University of Oklahoma (1998); Bachelor's Degree, Criminal Justice-Administration of Law, Northeastern State University (1993); Henryetta High School (1987). Accomplishments: Appointed Tribal Representative, Oklahoma State Systems of Care Board (2007); Elected Vice-President, Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Association (2002-2004); Elected Indian Falls Creek Board of Directors (1993-present). Platform: I will utilize my education and experience serving children and families to enhance the quality and quantity of services provided by the Nation to the citizens of the Okmulgee District. I have dedicated my life to protecting and improving the lives of children and families and I understand the needs, strengths, and potential of the communities that I will represent. As a Representative, I will be an **advocate** – ensuring that the Okmulgee District receives equal and consistent consideration from the Nation in all matters affecting its citizens, families, and communities – and a **messenger** – ensuring that the questions, opinions, and decisions of the Okmulgee District citizens are heard by the Nation. Mvto.



CANDIDATE PROFILES

OKMULGEE DISTRICT CANDIDATES continued

Seat D: (INCUMBENT)
Name: R.M. Bo Johnson
Age: 62
Clan: Katcv-Tiger
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground:Cowetv/Greenleaf
Church: First Baptist, Okmulgee
Experience: I have devoted my entire adult work experience as a public servant. My experience in listening to and addressing peoples' concerns extends over four decades. As your Okmulgee District Representative during this present legislative period I have strived to support all Health, Education and common sese legislation. I have become known as a strong advocate for employee rights and fundamental fairness. Leading the charge on the removal of all past health board members and my present legislative bill, a re-introduction of a tribal-paid funeral policy for all Muscogee citizens regardless of where they live in the United States, are two of my most important accomplishments. The funeral bill failed the first time it was introduced by a 12-11 vote. **Education:** Masters Degree in Criminal Justice and an Associate Degree in Police Science. Military: United States Marine Corps, served as a Marine Drill Instructor and also served as a Platoon Sgt. during the Vietnam War in 1968-69. **Other:** I have over twenty-five year's law enforcement experience and I am retired from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Overall I have 30 years work experience in mid to upper management positions.



Seat D:
Name: Richard Larney
Age: 77
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground/Church: Hutcha Chuppa / Henryetta First Free Will Baptist
Experience: I am running for Creek Nation Counsel. I would like the opportunity to serve the people and use my experience to benefit the tribe. I believe the people have a voice that should be heard and representated in an open government. My experience shows a commitment to servant leadership with many different groups and organizations, including serving on the National Council of the Creek Nation from 1980 to 1983 and from 1985 to 1986. It would be an honor to represent and serve our people and our great nation.
Raised at Honey Creek and attended Honey Creek Indian Church; served six years in the U.S. Army --- two honorable discharges; served 27 years at the Henryetta Police Department; served 14 years as Chief of Police; served on National Council from 1980 to 1983 and from 1985 to 1986; served four years as Lighthorse Manager; served three years as Security Manager for Thlopthlocco Tribal Town; served 10 years on Henryetta City Council; served as Mayor of Henryetta two times; served on the Creeks Mental Health Board --- Chartered Member; and Deacon at Henryetta First Freewill Baptist.



Seat E: (UNOPPOSED)
Name: James Jennings
Age: 58
Clan: Bear
Church: Belvin Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Arbeka
Family: three children, two grandchildren, married for 39 years to Joyce Jennings
Experience: I attended Indian boarding schools for 12 years, graduating from Sequoyah High School in Tahlquah. Shortly after high school I entered the army serving three years as a military policeman and was honorably discharged at the rank of Sgt. I have been a resident of Okmulgee for 29 years and employed as a cabinetmaker with Southern Millwork in Tulsa for 34 years. I am running for Seat E onthe Creek Nation Tribal Council and will do my best to serve the Indian community whether it be in the interest of housing, health, child development, seniors or whatever is needed, it is clearly time for a change.



TULSA DISTRICT CANDIDATES

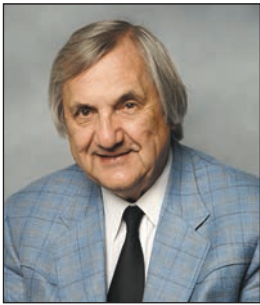
Seat A:
Name: Darrin Bell
Age: 35
Church: Jenks First Baptist
Experience: Active member of the Creek Community. He is a paraprofessional in the special education department at Glenpool Public Schools. He is a member of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community Board, the Glenpool Indian Education Parent Committee and Jenks First Baptist Church. He has three children. Bell volunteers for the Native American Student Association and coaches eighth-grade football and high school wrestling at Glenpool. He organized the Lakota Rose Run at the Wellbreity Festival in 2004. Attended Haskell Indian College and Kentucky State University.
“It’s time for a change in Seat A. I want to look forward to the future while preserving the culture of our past. Join me in making or nation a stronger place for us and our children. Mvto.”



Seat A: (INCUMBENT)
Name: Ronald Cleghorn
Age: 57
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: New Tulsa
Church: First Baptist, Tulsa
Family: Single; brothers, Robert and Thomas Cleghorn; nephew, Jason Grant; parents, the late Irene Jacobs Cleghorn and James G. Cleghorn; grandparents, the late John Alexander Jacobs and Nancy Tea Jacobs
Experience: I am currently serving in the 8th year of my fourth term as your Tulsa district representative on the national council. I am honored to have been selected by my peers on the Tribal Affairs Committee as its chairperson for this term. Previously, I served on the Business & Governmental and Community Services & Cultural committees. I regularly attend Health Board, Gaming Operations Authority Board and other committee meetings in order to fully understand the issues that need to be addressed. Formerly, I served on the Board of Directors for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community. Being raised in the Tulsa area for 55 years of my life, I grew up personally knowing many of the Tulsa District tribal citizens. They communicate to me their wants, needs and concerns.
Reasons: My decision to run for election is that quality legislation that benefits all tribal citizens must be enacted. I definitely feel I have contributed and made an impact as a council member in this area. I am also committed to the absentee voter who is registered in the Tulsa district. I firmly believe we as legislators are accountable and responsible to the tribal citizens regarding the spending of the tribe’s funds. If elected and it is allowable, I will sponsor legislation to issue a per capita payment to each tribal citizen. As the Tulsa District voter, you are my boss and I am your servant. I have no hidden agendas. I am both visible and accessible to my constituents at all times, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! I humbly ask for your prayers, support, and vote on September 22, 2007. May God bless you and yours. Mvto!



Seat A:
Name: Larry L. Oliver
Age: 71
Experience: As a single parent, I raised three wonderful children, Lisa Oliver, Lori McGraw and Lance Oliver. I am currently raising my fourteen year old grand-daughter Lindsey Oliver...you may have seen her running around with me. I also have two more grandchildren.
I grew up in Tulsa and have lived in the Tulsa District most of my life. I graduated with both a Bachelor of Science and Juris Doctor from the University of Tulsa. While attending school, I worked six years for the Tulsa Police Department. After graduating law school, I worked in the District Attorney's office for a year. Since then, I have been in private practice. Recently, I served on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court as Chief Justice from 1999-2005. Last year, I was elected as Treasurer for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community.



Seat B:
Name: Patricia Clark
Age: 64
Clan: Raccoon
Experience: A resident of Glenpool all her life. Served on the National Council in 1986-1988. Ms. Clark's goal as a National Council member is to serve and represent the Muscogee (Creek) tribal members to the best of her ability. To be the voice for the people and stand up for what is right, so that every tribal member is given a fair chance without discrimination.
Mvto.



TULSA DISTRICT CANDIDATES continued

Seat B: (INCUMBENT)
Name: Cherrah D. Quiett
Age: 29 years old
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Broken Arrow
Church: All Tribes Community
Experience: It has been my privilege and honor to serve the Mvskoike people for the past six years and I hope you will consider allowing me to serve you again. I have a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Oklahoma and I am currently employed as the Director of Operations for the Horizon Companies in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I am married and have four of the best and brightest children that I treasure as they are future of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
Being the youngest member of the Council I feel I have brought a different and sometimes unique perspective to the Legislative Branch of our government. I have learned to take the wisdom and lessons of our past and to think of the impact my actions will have on our future. I take the time to pray over every bill before I vote. I know to be a visionary and dream big and set realistic goals while being financial responsible. While on the Council, I feel I have proven my leadership abilities by being selected to serve as Chair of the Human Development Committee, Chair of the Constitution Amendment Committee, and Chair of the Women's Caucus. I believe I have been a positive and effective leader while serving the people. I believe in being accessible and visible and active in the community, so please feel free to contact me at (918) 671-9053 or tulsacreek@aol.com. Use your power to vote and consider re-electing Cherrah Quiett for Tulsa District, Seat B.



Seat C:
Name: Bim Stephen (Steve) Bruner
Age: 58
Clan: turtle (Lucv)
Church: 1st United Methodist, Broken Arrow
Family: Late brother, Danny Bruner; three children, Dana, Bo & Andy; six grandchildren; parents, the late Bim Bruner and LedaV (Burgess) Bruner; grandparents, Mildred Armstrong (McIntosh) Childers; Ruby Mildred (Childers) Haynie; and Tyler Burgess
Experience: Former Speaker of MCN National Council; Tulsa District Representative from 1993 until 1996; Former President of BA Title IV Program; Former member of Lighthorse Commission; Former chairman of Business & Government committee, Human Development Committee; and Fact-Finding Committee; Former MCN Economic Development Coordinator; Acting Tribal Affairs Director; Graduated from Broken Arrow high school in 1967; attended Oklahoma University, Tulsa Junior College, Northeastern State University, and the University of Tulsa; Associates degree in Criminal Justice; 110 hours toward a Business degree; U.S. Army October 1968 until October 1970; Parachute Rigger; Honorably Discharged; member of U.S. Army Reserves 12th Special Forces; Tulsa Police Officer April 1971 until November 1981; Purple heart for a gunshot wound suffered during a drug raid in October 1980; awarded medal of Valor by the Tulsa Fraternal Order of Police 1980.
Now that I have watched after my mother for the past 4 1/2 years I am prepared to once again serve the Muscogee Nation citizens. Together “WE” can make the Nation support and provide for those that need assistance as the originators of the Constitution intended. It is time to stop the “ME” mentality. Visit my website at bimsbruner.com and please vote for your choice to serve you and the nation September 22. You may contact me via cell phone at (918) 671-1109 or via e-mail at steve@bimsbruner.com. Mvto.



Seat C:
Name: Forbes W. Perkins
Age: 37
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal town: New Tulsa
Church: Indian Fellowship Baptist Church
Experience: I am running for a position on the Creek Nation National Council, Seat C, representing the Tulsa District. I have recently been on the Board of Directors for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community serving as the Sgt.-at-Arms last year and as the Vice-Chairman this year.
I was born in Bellflower, California, to Paula (Pinkie) and Lewis Perkins. My maternal grandmother was Nellie McCosar from Holdenville, Ok. I attended Haskell Indian Nations University, and graduated in May 1995 with my AA degree in Liberal Arts. I am working toward two more degrees along with my Haskell degree. I feel that a person can never have too much education. I currently attend the College of the Muscogee Nation in Okmulgee, majoring in Native American studies, and also attend Tulsa Community College, majoring in computers.
I work for Horizon Engineering. Horizon is a Native owned civil engineering firm that specializes in tribal needs. We design or improve tribal roads, casinos, hospitals and reservation schools. I've been at this company for two years but have been drafting for 10. I would like to eventually own my own engineering firm and do work for tribes. I want to help our people as much as possible. With my education background and my time and experience I would get serving on the National Council, I feel I can be a positive influence in the native community.



Seat D: (INCUMBENT/UNOPPOSED)
Name: Samuel S. Alexander
Age: 60
Clan: Eco
Church: Member of Montesoma Indian Baptist Church
Experience: Owner of public accounting firm located in Wagoner, Oklahoma. Practicing public accounting since 1973, achieving CPA designation in 1979. Muscogee Nation positions: 1st confirmed Tax Commissioner – 1993 to 1996; Gaming Operations Authority Board member and chairman– 1998 to 2002; Elected to National Council for two-year term in Seat D, Tulsa District – September 2005; began term in January 2006.
The constitution, tribal law and hands-on experience place most of the financial responsibility on the National Council. The power to legislate on matters such as appropriations and entering into contracts broaden the responsibility.
As tribes diversify business holdings, it is critical to have in place legislators knowledgeable about business and finance. The amounts appearing in tribal financial statements are much larger than five years ago. As plans are made to maximize future gaming revenues, acute financial awareness becomes an obvious legislative requirement. Attributes of stewardship, fiduciary responsibility and understanding complex financial transactions are valuable intangible possessions.
The National Council is up to the challenge. Executives seeking tribal business now face intense financial scrutiny within Council committees and business boards.
It is an honor to represent the Tulsa District in the legislature. My father and uncle were involved and concerned with the tribal government in the 1950s, and these childhood memories continue to provide inspiration. Difficult questions never asked in Okmulgee are making people uncomfortable. From all appearances, Muscogee citizens of the Tulsa District want this style of representation to continue.



Seat E: (INCUMBENT/UNOPPOSED)
NAME: Paula Perkins-Willits
CLAN: Sweet Potato
TRIBAL TOWN/CEREMONIAL GROUND/CHURCH: New Tulsa
EXPERIENCE: I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis on Management. I have been a member of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community for over 25 years. I have served as Secretary, Treasurer, Secretary-Treasurer, and Chairperson of the community. At the end of this year, I will have served 2 years and 7 months on the National Council. I was on the Tribal Affairs Committee and am now on the Community Services and Cultural Committee. I served on the Fountainhead Committee and now serve on the Mound Oversight Committee and the Museum Committee. I retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after completing over 30 years of government service. When I retired, I was a Writer-Editor in the Planning Division. In addition to my college education, during my years with the Federal Government I received over 100 hours of training in areas such as Sexual Harassment, Timekeeping, Transactional Analysis, Writing and Editing, Computer Science, Leadership, Time Management, Safe Driving, etc. I have served on committees at church, work, and in social organizations. I continue to attend community meetings at TCIC and occasionally attend church at Indian Fellowship Baptist Church in Oakhurst.



Seat F:
Name: Brent Beaver
Age: 37
Tribal Town/Church: New Tulsa/Big Cussetah United Indian Methodist
Experience: If elected, being a national council representative will be a new and rewarding experience for me. I graduated from Haskell Indian Junior College, also attended T.C.C. and Fort Lewis College. I had been employed with Citgo Petroleum Corp for the last ten years in the Marketing Department under Business Services as a Customer Service Representative. My attributes are the ability to interact and assist people and willingness to listen, learn and honesty.
My parents are former Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver and Mariam R. Bruner Beaver.
My ambition will be to work on behalf of all Muscogee (Creek) citizens in all areas: health, education and welfare. Best wishes and happiness to all.



CANDIDATE PROFILES

TULSA DISTRICT CANDIDATES continued

Seat F:

Name: Kara Renae (Long) Medina

Age: 27

Family: Married to Juan Medina, with three children; mother, Karla K. (Long) Tarango Father: Biological father David Neal Harjo; adopted and raised by Fernando Chairez Olvera; grandparents, Noah & Nancy Harjo; Heriberto & Maria Chairez (adoptive); Bob & LaVerne Williams(maternal)

Tribal Town / Ceremonial Ground: New Tulsa

Church: Elwood Baptist Church- Glenpool, Oklahoma

Experience: Associate of Arts in English from TCC; Bachelor of Arts in American Studies and English from OSU-Tulsa; Currently pursuing my BS in Nursing from OU-Tulsa to obtain my RN license in August 2008. Until May of 2007, I worked for the National Council Office as a Legislative Research Specialist Assistant drafting legislation, researching Tribal legislation and federal laws such as IGRA, attending various Tribal functions and summits related to Tribal legislation, communicating with various departments and boards as necessary for the preparation of legislation and attending monthly Committee and Council meetings. I began full-time nursing classes on June 4, 2007. I have written book reviews for the Tulsa World's Sunday Book Scene section on a volunteer basis as time permits. As part of my nursing clinicals, I have recently done health teaching at the Laura Dester Shelter for abused and neglected children and have done clinicals in various other settings as a way of getting acquainted with the various problems, needs and concerns surrounding health care which exist within the Tulsa community.

Reasons: My decision to run for office stems from my desire to reach out to my fellow Citizens within my community and to help make a difference through the legislative process. I truly believe that with our Nation, the sky's the limit when it comes to branching out and building new enterprises. It is my goal to obtain bids and/or business proposals for new developments for the Nation; from the banking industry to the retail sector- we can do anything we set our minds to if we develop organized, well-thought-out plans! I also would like to use my nursing education to give back to the Nation for all of the opportunities that it has given me by helping to improve our Health System. It is my goal to improve our programs and services in every single area, to ensure that we always have enough funding to meet those needs first and foremost, and to ensure fairness and equality in the distribution of services. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have- I would love to hear from you! I ask for your support this September as we go to the polls and I promise that if I am elected, I will advocate for those that I serve all the way. Mvto and may the Lord bless each and every one of you!

No Photo Available


Seat F:

Name: Owen Sapulpa

Experience: Owen's motivation for running for a National Council seat is to bring a crucial environment of enterprise and economic development. Integrity is an important part of tribal government and Owen's strong ethics will be beneficial. Other objectives include preserving cultural integrity and to be responsible with the social needs of the tribal citizens.

Owen earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Accounting from Northeastern State University in 1973. He has since applied his education in a professional capacity. His experience includes analysis of and business/accounting consultations to over 220 tribal administration and Native urban organizations throughout the United States including Alaska and Hawaii. He has over ten years experience in program management and administration in human resource development. Owen was the MCN Director of Finance for over three years.

Currently, Owen is Chairman of the Gaming Operation Authority Board as well as Chairman of the Tulsa Casino Project Oversight Committee formed to oversee and direct the building of the new Tulsa casino. Owen has a successful tax practice in Tulsa, OK and is a certified Quick Books Pro Advisor. He is enrolled to practice before the Internal Revenue Service. Owen is the great grandson of Sapulpa for whom the town was named. He has been married for 27 years and has four children.



Seat G: (UNOPPOSED)

Name: Robert Hufft

Age: 53

Clan: Deer

Church: Asbury Methodist

Experience: I have an accounting degree from Oklahoma State University and I work and live in Tulsa. I am a single dad with three wonderful kids. I have over 10 years of tribal government experience.

“THOUGH NO ONE CAN GO BACK AND MAKE A BRAND NEW START ANYONE CAN START FROM NOW AND MAKE A BRAND NEW ENDING”.

We need to start NOW and go forward as a Nation and not forget our past but, look forward to a new beginning.

No Photo Available

WAGONER DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Seat A: (INCUMBENT)

Name: Richard Berryhill, Coweta

Age: 62


Clan: Bird

Tribal Town: Hitchita

Church: Cedar Creek Baptist

Family: wife, Wilma (Miller) Berryhill; parents, Sam Berryhill and Viola (McIntosh) Berryhill

Experience: It has been a pleasure to serve as National Council Representative for Wagoner, Rogers and Mayes counties for 18 years. During my tenure, I have gained much satisfaction in being associated with the citizens of our Nation and have been honored to serve you. I bring years of dedication to the people. I have served in various offices within the Council; such as Second Speaker, Sergeant-of-arms, and Chairman and Vice-Chairman of committees. My attendance at Council meetings and Community meetings is unquestionable. I strive to serve our district in a manner supporting our laws and citizens.



Seat A:

Name: Barbara Gillespie

Age: 69

Clan: Sweet Potato

Tribal Town: Locvpokv


Church: Davis Chapel

Experience: Service Station Owner/Operator, Real Estate Sales and Management. OSU Extension Service, Various offices in the Koweta Community.

Six (6) terms as National Council Representative, Chairman on three (3) of the four (4) Standing Committees; Community Service and Cultural, Human Development and Tribal Affairs committees. Currently serving on the Circle of Care Advisory Council, and Wagoner County Economic Development Board. Current Director of Indian Education, Coweta Public Schools.

Goals: Economic Development, education, elder housing and more services for all citizens.

Vote on September 22, 2007 for EXPERIENCE, LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT within the National Council. Mvto.



Seat A:

Name: Johnnie L. Greene


Age: 64

Clan: Wind

Tribal Town: Kialegee

Church: Springtown United Methodist

Experience: Prior to serving on the National Council as a Representative for the Wagoner, Rogers and Mayes District, I worked for the Administration as Secretary for the Second Chief and later as Executive Secretary for the Executive Director. I was employed five years for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation before retiring and viewing for a National Council Seat. I have served as Vice-Chairman for the Human Development Committee and am currently serving on the Community Services and Cultural Committee. I also serve on the Internal Affairs Committee and am an alternate on the Fact Finding Committee. It has been a blessing and an honor to serve as a Representative for my District. Mvto




Seat A:

Name: Jack Lewis

Age: 63

Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground/Church: Coweta

Experience: I have a BS degree in education from Northeastern State University. I served six years in the National Guard. My work experience includes teacher, coach, and funeral director. I am currently employed by the State of Oklahoma in the Indigent Defense system. I have been a longstanding member of the Wagoner Rotary Club. I am married with two children and two grandchildren.



TUKVPTCE DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Seat A:

Name: Shirlene Ade

Age: 61


Clan: Tiger

Church: Morris Indian Baptist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial Ground: Chey-ah-a

Family: Married 44 years; three children; five grandchildren; parents, Elizabeth Narcomey of Holdenville and Frank Lewis of Eufaula

Experience: I have supported our communities, churches, families, other district and have exercised leadership in economic development. I supported the Housing Program from the State of Oklahoma to the Chief's office. I have attended community meetings and met in the homes of many constituents. I have not always agreed with the Executive Branch in all matters. I have always voted on issues with regards for the impact my vote will have on the present and the future generations. Thank you for your past support and I ask you for your continued future support. Mvto.



Seat A:

Name: Augusta Anderson

Clan: Deer


Church: Belvin Baptist

Family: Rev. Harry Anderson; four children, Herod Anderson, Angela Martin, Sarah Anderson, and Dr. Zachariah Anderson

Tribal Town/Church: Fish Pond, Sand Creek Baptist

Experience: I am 13/16 Muscogee Creek and 2/16 Seminole, and fluent in the Creek language. My parents are Austin Barnett and Mamie Tiger Barnett of Eufaula. Paternal grandparents are Edmond Barnett Sr. and Mandy Simmons Barnett of Eufaula. Maternal grandparents and Sarah Lindsey Tiger and Artusse Tiger of Hanna, OK.

I was employed with Muscogee (Creek) Nation for twenty-three years. Ten years as a CHR Caseworker, and 13 years as a Caseworker in CN Social Services. I attended East Central University, Ada, OK where I received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Human Resources and Social Work. I have been a resident of Holdenville, OK for 30 years. My desire would be to represent Tukvvpce district on the Creek Nation Council and to serve our people in respectful and dignified manner. Mvto!



Seat A:

Name: Nathan Buck

Age: 70

Clan: Bird

Church: Many Springs Baptisit Church

Education: Graduate of Spaulding, near Holdenville and Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kansas

Experience: Former National Council, Representative, 2000-2002. Employed with Creek Nation Food Distribution program for five years. I gained knowledge of budgets, accounting and management which will be valuable in performing the responsibilities as district representative.


I was instrumental in obtaining assistance for two major road projects for the district. The Yeager and Tokpofka road have been completed to date. I understand the importance of planning, organizing and implementing plans through working with all people.

Currently employed with the Phillips-Hudson funeral home over a period of 35 years.

Personal information: I speak the creek language fluently and can communicate with all tribal members. My parents were Nathan Buck and Alice McCosar Buck, both deceased; wife, Margaret Buch and four children. I am a member of the Buck family singers who have been performing for 50 years.

As the district representative for Tkvpvtce I will devote my efforts toward improving services to the creek people. I understand the importance of planning, organizing and implementing plans through working with all people. Recently received a certificate of service from the State of Oklahoma and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This award by the State and Tribal government was acknowledging the efforts of the Buck family in promoting gospel music and bringing business to the community.

I appreciate your vote on September 22. Mvto.



Seat A: (INCUMBENT)

Name: Sylvanna Caldwell

Age: 61

Clan: Wotko

Church: Okmulgee Indian Baptist

Tribal Town: Kialegee

Experience: I am currently serving on the National Council representing the Tukvptce District, Seat A and up for re-election for a 4 year term. I have worked hard for the past 16 months for the citizens in my district and the Nation as a whole and will continue to do so when re-elected.

My experience as stated when I ran for the Council in 2005 was that I had worked for various tribal governments and Federal programs and understand the accountability of services and programs on the tribal and federal levels. This has been an asset when serving on the National Council.


My education has also assisted me with an open minded view of new ideas, progressive actions of our Health and Education systems for the welfare of all tribal citizens.

I currently serve on the Community Services & Cultural Committee, an alternate chairperson for the Internal Affair Committee, an alternate member for the Fact-Finding Committee, National Council Women's Caucus and serve on the Muscogee Creek Nation 4-H Advisory Board.

Never before in the history of the Tkvpvtce District has there been such activity, service, programs, economic development in the last 16 month, with the full support of the National Council legislative body.

I appreciate your vote and support to continue to serve you for another four years.

Mvto.



Seat A:

Name: James McGirt

Age: 73

Clan: Nokose (Bear)

Church: Many Springs

Tribal Town: New Tulsa

Education: Chilocco Indian Agricultural School; University of Oklahoma


Experience: U.S. Marine Corps; 1st Radio Company, FME, Camp LeJeune; Electronic Technician and CW Radio Operator; VMA (AW)-121, 3rd NAW, El Toro; Pilot (Jet) and Training Officer.

Business: Have extensive business experience with McDonnel-Douglas Aircraft Company in contracts and contract management. Began as a technical data coordinator and advanced to the position of supervisor and then branch manger. Managed a department and dealt with suppliers and customers such as the Department of the Air Force, the Department of the Navy, American Airlines, United Airlines, Raytheon, and other suppliers.

Was a technical publications editor for the Autonetics Division of North American Aviation where I edited and wrote technical manuals for Wind VI Minuteman and other defense systems.

Served as President and CEO of the Indian-owned corporation which operated the Madera Employment Training Center in California. This program employed over 70 staff and provided training on a national scale for American Indians as field engineers for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), electronic technicians for the FAA, field engineers for the Xerox Corporation, field engineers for National Cash Register, and installers for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph. In addition, this corporation provided vocational training for American Indians in San Diego, California. The emphasis was on women and single parents. At that time, it was the only program in the nation which guaranteed employment for the student upon successful graduation from the courses offered.

After returning to Oklahoma I provided services to various tribes on a consulting basis. Some of the projects included a flood control project for the Iowa Tribe, a flood control project for the Tonkawa Tribe, a nutrition center for the Kickapoo Tribe, a multi-purpose building for the Caddo Tribe, and management design service for various tribes in the southwest.




Seat B: (UNOPPOSED)

Name: Thomas Yahola

Family: Wife, Phyllis (Sloan) Yahola; six daughters; two sons; parents, the late Lyman and Bertha (Taylor) Yahola

Experience: National Council, six terms, served as speaker of the 13th session; served as second speaker; chairman of Human Development and Internal Affair committee; presently serving on the Preservation of Hickory Ground committee. Sponsored/cosponsored legislation, NCA 04-055, created/implemented Tribal Housing Division; boundary signs, entering/leaving Muscogee (Creek) Nation; special appropriations, Moss School, Town of Dustin, Sand Creek Church; commitment to assist IHS Okmulgee Unit to offset costs for water/sewer facilities to 80 Indian homes; enlarged land base, Arbeka Ceremonial Ground; served on panel, Cultural values, Sovereignty Symposium, OKC; sponsored/enacted legislation, Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes as Tribal Delegates, supported tribal languages, created Tribal Language Committee; My goals is Economic Development, sponsor legislation to approve Housing Business Plan of the Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority to construct a Manufacturing Plant in Wetumka that will construct homes for Housing and provide employment, continue to improve rapport with citizens, communities, Tribal, civic leaders, Executive and Judicial Branches of the Nation.



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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

September, 2007
Volume 37, Issue 9
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

POSTED BY ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION VIOLATES COURT ORDER, HELD IN CONTEMPT

In an Order dated August 30, 2007, the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation found that the National Council was in contempt of court for interfering with the Principal Chief's executive authority over the Budget and his employees. The Supreme Court further ordered that the National Council be punished for contempt through the following Public Censure:

PUBLIC CENSURE

THIS NOTICE SERVES AS A PUBLIC CENSURE FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ADMONISHING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL WHO WILLFULLY ACTED IN VIOLATION OF THE SUPREME COURT'S PREVIOUSLY ENTERED ORDER AND WHO ATTEMPTED TO USURP THE POWERS OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL WILLFULLY AND CONTEMPTUOUSLY INTERFERED WITH THE BUDGETS SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AND CAUSED CERTAIN JOBS WITHIN THE NATION TO BE UNLAWFULLY ELIMINATED.

THE VOTING RECORDS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS IN REGARD TO THE VETO OVERRIDE OF THE 2007 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET, AND VOTING RECORDS IN REGARD TO NCA 07-167 WHICH WAS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL IN AN UNLAWFUL ATTEMPT TO THREATEN MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COURT WITH IMPRISONMENT ARE ATTACHED HERETO AND AVAILABLE UPON WRITTEN OR ORAL REQUEST FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL SO THAT THE CITIZENS OF THIS NATION MAY SEE HOW THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE VOTED.

IF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FAILS TO PROVIDE A CITIZEN'S REQUESTED COPY WITHIN 48 HOURS OF REQUEST (EXCLUDING WEEKENDS), THIS WILL BE DEEMED TO BE A DIRECT CONTEMPT OF COURT VIOLATION.

VETO MESSAGE:

NCA 07-167 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON CONTEMPT GENERALLY, PUNISHMENT FOR DIRECT AND INDIRECT CONTEMPT; INDIRECT CONTEMPTS-PROCEEDINGS" Motion Carried.

Representative Roger Barnett made a motion **Override the Veto**. Representative Johnnie Greene seconded the motion. Discussion. Upon a motion and second being made, a roll call vote was taken with the following results being recorded: **18 in favor, 8 against, 0 abstentions**

VOTES BY DISTRICT:

Creek		Keeper Johnson	NO
George Tiger	Yes	Jeff Fife	Yes
Duke Harjo	Yes	Bo Johnson	Yes
Roger Barnett	Yes	James Jennings	NO
McIntosh		Tukvptce	
Tom Pickering	NO	Sylvanna Caldwell	Yes
Anthony Notaro	NO	Thomas Yahola	Yes
Thomas McIntosh	Yes	Shirlene Ade	Yes
Muskogee		Tulsa	
Pete Beaver	Yes	Larry Bible	NO
Eddie LaGrone	Yes	Cherrah Quiet	NO
Okfuskee		Ron Cleghorn	Yes
Travis Scott	Yes	Sam Alexander	Yes
Lena Wind	Yes	Paula Willits	NO
Bill Fife	Yes	Wagoner	
Okmulgee		Richard Berryhill	Yes
Robert Jones	NO	Johnnie Greene	Yes

VETO MESSAGE:

NCA 06-257 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-205 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET WITH EXCLUSION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS) **Returned by the Principal Chief as a Veto with objections**

Representative Sam Alexander made a motion **Override the Veto**. Representative Jeff Fife seconded the motion. Discussion. Upon a motion and a second being made, a roll call vote was taken with the following results being recorded: **20 in favor, 4 against, 0 abstentions**

VOTES BY DISTRICT:

Creek		Keeper Johnson	NO
George Tiger	Yes	Jeff Fife	Yes
Duke Harjo	Yes	Bo Johnson	Yes
Roger Barnett	Yes	James Jennings	NO
McIntosh		Tukvptce	
Tom Pickering	NO	Sylvanna Caldwell	Yes
Anthony Notaro	Yes	Thomas Yahola	NO
Thomas McIntosh	Yes	Shirlene Ade	Yes
Muskogee		Tulsa	
Pete Beaver	Yes	Larry Bible	
Eddie LaGrone	Yes	Cherrah Quiet	Yes
Okfuskee		Ron Cleghorn	Yes
Travis Scott	Yes	Sam Alexander	Yes
Lena Wind	Yes	Paula Willits	Yes
Bill Fife	Yes	Wagoner	
Okmulgee		Richard Berryhill	Yes
Robert Jones	Yes	Johnnie Greene	Yes

all official court documents can be viewed at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to Build King Coal Depot in Henryetta

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has accepted a \$1.5 million award to build "King Coal Depot," a transportation-related museum and tourism welcome center in Henryetta, Oklahoma. The Transportation Enhancement Program award was approved by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation based on an application developed by the Oklahoma Museum of Labor and Mining.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis said, "This project was presented to the Nation with many benefits for our citizens. Perhaps the most attractive aspect of the project for the Nation is that we now own the 10 acre site just north of I-40 as well as the museum and conference center."

Henryetta was selected as the site for this project because of its easy Interstate and state highway access and visibility, as well as its cultural, historic, recreational and scenic features. The building site is high atop a hill on 10 acres just north of I-40 and just east of Hwy 75 at the east end of Henryetta's Main Street.

Henryetta lies within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and was established in 1901 as a result of the railroad coming to the coal outcroppings there. The city is home to the Labor Day Parade and celebration that began in Henryetta as the "King Coal Carnival" in the 1920s.

The King Coal Depot site is only about one mile from the Hugh Henry House, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1885 Hugh Henry, a Creek citizen, built a small house next to Coal Creek just east of present-day Henryetta saying, "this is where we will live, because where there is coal, a railroad will surely come."

The first-class King Coal Depot facilities will serve as educational, and conference resources for the Tribe. Also, there is ample space on the property for other business ventures, educational, health care or recreational facilities.

King Coal Depot will be

nearly 12,000 square feet of indoor space. The facilities will include an Oklahoma Tourism Information Center and Transportation Museum. Galleries will feature exhibits about the development of railways and roadways in Indian Territory as a result of the mining industry.

"We believe that the King Coal Depot story line of rails and roadways into Indian Territory is ultimately the story of the people of Indian Territory. The Native American (Indian) people of Oklahoma should influence how this story is told," Chief Ellis stated.

The museum will tell the story of how the simultaneous boom of mining and transportation changed the lives of the Native American people living in Indian Territory, brought thousands of non-Indian immigrants to the territory and quickened the path to Oklahoma's statehood.

Oklahoma's Museum of Labor and Mining Board President Kathryn Shurden said, "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has the vision and capacity to benefit from this project and we are delighted to be working with the Tribe. The National Council overwhelmingly recognized that this project will have far-reaching benefits for their citizens."

"This museum will be quite different from other facilities being planned by the Tribe. Regardless of the theme, however, a museum is an excellent complement to other businesses. We expect that jobs will be created by the museum and other business ventures on this site," Shurden added.

The Oklahoma Museum of Labor and Mining is an official project of the Oklahoma Centennial Commemoration and was funded in part through a grant made possible by the Oklahoma Legislature. Major funding for this project has also been provided by gifts from Oklahoma labor unions. The Oklahoma Museum of Labor and Mining is an Oklahoma non-profit Corporation (501c3) governed by a nine member Board of Trustees who serve as volunteers.



A Muscogee (Creek) Nation representative joins Oklahoma Museum of Labor and Mining Board members in displaying the architect's rendering of the King Coal Depot facilities. (Front Row, Left to Right) Kathryn Shurden, Linda Gerster, Kenneth Powders, (Back Row, Left to Right) Donald Wells, Danne Spurlock, and Mike Flud from the Muscogee Nation.

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS - SECTION A

EXECUTIVE A2

Message from Second Chief; Letters to the Editor; In the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation



TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings; Message from the desk of the Speaker George Tiger



BUSINESS A5

UPDATE: Creek Nation Tulsa Casino



HEALTH A6

WIC Program Offers Hugsters



We're Looking for Creek Vendors

The Executive Branch asks any Creek citizens who sell goods/services, make crafts or create art to contact the Communications Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation so information can be posted on the MCN website as a service to our communities and citizens. Contact information: nhowk@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or call (918) 732-7697

LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of the Speaker



Tiger

HE(N)SCI !!!

This month's column will be to respond to the recent decision that was made by the Supreme Court.

The Creek democracy has been functioning for decades, and we believe a reflection of the Muscogee Creek people who elected us throughout the districts of the Creek Nation. This is about our past, and the part of our history that holds the democratic traditions of the Muscogee Creek people. Our democracy is one of the oldest in the world, and the actions of the recent Supreme Court decision have put this in jeopardy.

The National Council has legislated 1373 laws and resolutions in the past four year. I am very proud of this

well educated and diverse group and what they have accomplished together, and honored that I have had the privilege of serving as the Speaker for the past two years. Of all these legislative items, there have been only 14 vetoes from the Principal Chief. This is just a little more than one percent of our actions subjected to a veto, but one of these vetoes, overridden by the National Council resulted in a law suit being filed by the Chief against the legislature and late last week one August 30th, the Supreme Court of our Nation ruled in favor of the Chief. We believe our actions have been just and true, and we also believe the ruling by our Supreme Court holding the National Council in contempt is not a just decision, and we must respond. This ruling has held this body in contempt and has now, through judicial means stripped this legislature of the duty that every other legislative body in the world have, the ability to exercise legislative oversight to the budget process. In addition, they have also added the measure of public censure for the National Council, to be published in newspapers around Oklahoma.

We, as a National Council have stepped forward to be leaders of our

Nation when it was necessary to be present. At no time were the actions of this National Council designed to be disrespectful of other officials or to overstep our boundaries, well established by the Constitution of the Muscogee Creek Nation. But we believe this to be a tremendous mistake, and a slap in the face to the established democracy of our Nation.

Now the democracy of the Muscogee Creek Nation is being changed and damaged through a decision in our own court system. We do not agree with the decision or the timing, on the eve of elections, make this action blatantly political. While we will not stop or arrest the censure notices from going public we will continue to exercise our democratic right to speak and dissent that five judges of the Supreme Court revising the constitutional duties of the Nation's legislature is not right and just. We also believe the people of the Muscogee Creek Nation will see through this attempt to put the National Council on a leash and will reject it.

Thank you for your continued words of encouragement and until next month MVTO!

Citizen receives Alternative Housing
by Rita Williams

Tim Felix, 48 year old Muscogee (Creek) Citizen, recently received a new home through the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation Alternative Housing Program.

Creek District Representative Roger Barnett presented the keys to the homeowner and assisted Mr. Felix however he could to help the process through with thanks to David Proctor.

Tim expressed his gratitude for the assistance of everyone involved to make this home a reality, one that is easy to move around and meets the need of those who are handicapped.

Almost a year ago, on October 28th, 2006 Tim had a hunting accident that left him paralyzed from the waist down. He spoke about the day of his hunting accident that would change his life forever.

“ It was deer season and I was in a hurry that morning thinking I had woke up late, so I grabbed a banana nut muffin and

left the house. As I reached the tree that I had always hunted in for fifteen years, I remembered that I had taken the steps off the tree earlier in the year so I had to climb that



tree with my body. When I reached the top of my spot, I was exhausted. I nestled down between a big branch and the trunk, not eating that morning my blood sugar began to drop and I immediately began to get dizzy. I tried to position myself to lay over a big limb, but I fell backwards falling about 15 to 18

feet below. After I fell, I realized I could feel no pain, I tried to move my legs, they would not move, nor could I feel them. I had a cell phone on me but did not think I could get a signal out and I knew my neighbors had business they had to attend to early that morning, but I called them anyway.

As luck would have it, his phone had a signal and his neighbors were home. They called for an ambulance to carry him out of the woods so Life Flight could transport him to St. Francis.

The Doctors told Mr. Felix that he would never walk again. The accident had damaged the nerves in his spine. Twenty-four hours after his accident, Tim Felix lost his mother.

“Miracles happen every day, I have not given up, but I live with my condition and hope for the best.” Tim expressed his deep appreciation for his sisters Paula and Robin for always being there for him and the family of Tom and Phyllis Holcumb.

Holdenville Indian Community Center;
by Rita Williams

HOLDENVILLE— During a recent visit to the Holdenville Indian Community Center the employees wanted to express to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation about one of their summer programs they are very proud of and that is the Elders Lawn Care Program. The program hired two young students, Chris Scott and Cory Johnson to mow the lawns. This was the second year to offer the lawn service to the elders, a very much needed program that is appreciated by the elders in the community.

“ I have received many compliments on my yard, said Betty Taylor, the boys would cut it once a week and if it wasn't for them my lawn would have grown up. I thank them for doing a good

job, we always offered them water, although they brought their own, we wanted to make



sure they had something to drink during the hot afternoons.” Elders Betty Tiger and Dora

Neconish both agreed.

Chris and Cory were highly praised by the staff and elders expressing their ability to be punctual, committed, and courteous. “ We mowed 24 lawns a week, we had to get up early to mow these lawns once a week.” Said Cory. When asked about their future plans, they both said, “ to get a desk job.”

Chris Johnson, 18, will be going to Oklahoma University this fall to major in Bio Medical Science and Cory Jimboy, 20, is in his second year at North Eastern State University with his major in English.

ELECTIONS
by Rita Williams

The Elections for 2008 are here. Muscogee (Creek) citizens will be voting in the next Principal Chief, Second Chief and District Representatives.

Candidates have been busy gearing up for the elections, putting up signs, knocking on doors, attending many forums and doing what most elections do.

Most of the forums have been well attended and the questions being posed are about; Tulsa Expansion, Gaming Revenue monies, Special appropriations, Health Services, Housing, Economic Development (Tribal Trade and Commerce and MNBE).

During a forum that was hosted by the Creeks in Dallas, Texas a statement was made by one of the citizens in the

audience as well as many questions asked. “ The Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas,



Wellness Center provides services to our Creek people, but receive no funds from the

tribe, they would like to see Creek Nation be able to assist the center with funding to help Creek citizens.” Questions were asked about the tribes doing business in Dallas, Texas that would provide jobs for Creeks. What about housing in Dallas? “If we vote for you, what are you going to do for us who are out of the boundaries? They also mentioned they have many of their children who have never been enrolled and would like to know what is available for them. The audience estimated that around 1000 Creeks or more live in Dallas, Texas. They were encouraged to become organized with assistance from the tribe.

District Court Filings for August 2007

Civil:	
Recovery Management Systems v. Nettie Harjo	Foreign Judgment
Recovery Management Systems v. Debra & Tommie Collum	Foreign Judgment
Christen Pruet & Nathaniel Cannon	Petition
Star Loans of Texas v. Robert Washington Jr.	Small Claims
Star Loans of Texas v. Tina Jack	Small Claims
Star Loans of Texas v. Rachael July	Small Claims
Patrick Notaro v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Temporary Ex-Parte Motion
Casino Michael Harrison and Ferrell Kaaihue	
Herman Harjo v. Lori Brunson	Petition
First American Cash Advance v. Donna Deerinwater	Small Claims
First American Cash Advance v. Patricia Bunner	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Cheryl Najera	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Judy Schanks	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Jeraldean Tiger	Small Claims
Covington Credit v. Faith Watashe	Foreign Judgment
Merchants and Professional Collection Service v. Tina Wilson	Petition
Mekko Welch v. Jessica Moreland	Petition

Divorce:	
Mary Kuhlman v. Timothy Kuhlman	Divorce
Lee Gouge v. Pamela Gouge	Divorce
Kelly Keplinger v. Truman Keplinger II	Divorce
Dawn Edwards v. Marlon Edwards	Divorce

Protective Orders::	
Paige Jack v. Rachel Hart & Kristie Harjo	Ex-Parte
Lanissa Melton v. Rachel Hart & Kristie Harjo	Ex-Parte
Paige Jack v. Tina Deo & Stacy Jack	Ex-Parte
Lanissa Melton v. Tina Deo & Stacy Jack	Ex-Parte
Kelly Keplinger v. Truman Keplinger II & Jennifer Dale	Ex-Parte
Monte & Darlene Stratton v. Melvin Pierce Jr.	Ex-Parte
Crystal, Linda & Frank Chisholm & Lyla Walker v. Harold Walker Jr.	Ex-Parte
Sharon Taylor v. Joel Craig	Ex-Parte
Crystal Chisholm & Lyla Walker v. Harold Walker Jr.	Ex-Parte

Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Deann Watashe	Ct. 1: Assault
MCN v. Sterling Scott	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Theresa Davis	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Corey Keifer	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Amy Hill	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Erica Stanley	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Richard Flud Jr.	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Tiffany Caywood	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Scott Sanford	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Brandon Barnhart	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Thomas Marsey	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Travis McMurtry	Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Drugs	Ct. 3: Public Intoxication
	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal

Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Wayne Stinger	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication

Traffic:	
MCN v. Misty Murphy	No Insurance
MCN v. Jason Clark	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Robert Thompson	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jared Barton	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jared Barton	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Weston Klaus	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nicole Jewell	Trespass
MCN v. Gerald Wacoche	Invalid Driver's License
MCN v. Michael Mattaliano	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
	Expired Tag
	DUS
	Disorderly Conduct
	Expired Tag
	No Insurance
	DUS
	No Proof of Insurance
	Expired Tag
	No Insurance
	DUS
	Expired Tag
	Possession of Illegal Drug
	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
	Reckless Driving
	DUS
	No Insurance
	Expired Tag
	DUS
	No Insurance
	No Tag
	Disorderly Conduct
	Expired Tag
	Expired Tag
	Expired Tag
	No Insurance
	Invalid Driver's License
	No Seatbelt
	Disorderly Conduct
	Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land

MCN v. Charles Boyd	Reckless Driving
MCN v. Michael Prejean	DUS
MCN v. Kenneth Kerr	No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Quilimaco	Expired Tag
MCN v. Michael Quilimaco	No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Quilimaco	DUS
MCN v. Casey Enloe	No Proof of Insurance
MCN v. Casey Enloe	Expired Tag
MCN v. Sandra Dabney	No Insurance
MCN v. Sandra Dabney	DUS
MCN v. Sandra Dabney	Expired Tag
MCN v. Ola Faye Hay	Possession of Illegal Drug
MCN v. Ola Faye Hay	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
	Reckless Driving
	DUS
	No Insurance
	Expired Tag
	DUS
	No Insurance
	No Tag
	Disorderly Conduct
	Expired Tag
	Expired Tag
	Expired Tag
	No Insurance
	Invalid Driver's License
	No Seatbelt
	Disorderly Conduct
	Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land

MCN v. Stewart Owens	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
	Land
	No Insurance
	No Insurance
	Expired Driver's License
	Disorderly Conduct
	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
	Land
	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
	Expired Tag
	No Tag

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE JUNE 19, EMERGENCY SESSION.

JUNE 19, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENTS WERE: REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED **LARRY BIBLE**, AND **ROBERT JONES**. REPRESENTATIVES ON TRAVEL STATUS ARE: **BILL FIFE**, **JEFF FIFE** AND **THOMAS YAHOLA**. **ORDER OF BUSINESS:** REPRESENTATIVE **DUKE HARJO** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (17-0-0) NCA 07-173, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A CREEK CITIZEN TO TRAVEL WITH HER SON TO CANCER TREATMENT OF AMERICA IN CHICAGO, IL SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE (\$2,500.00);

- APPROVED (17-2-0) NCA 07-167, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON CONTEMPT GENERALLY, PUNISHMENT FOR DIRECT AND INDIRECT CONTEMPT; INDIRECT CONTEMPT-PROCEEDINGS SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

VOTING NO WERE: **ANTHONY NOTARO** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**;

- APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 07-168, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DECLARING THE RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL A CIVIL RIGHT SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

JUNE 30, REGULAR SESSION

EXCUSED ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY BIBLE**, **JOHNNIE GREENE** AND **ROBERT JONES**;

- **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-051, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ESTABLISHING A CONSULTATION PROCESS WITH THE NATION EVERY TIME A FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND/OR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECT AFFECTS A NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORICAL OR BURIAL SITE WITHIN AN AREA OF THE STATE OF TEXAS FOR WHICH THE NATION HAS CONCERNS FOR HISTORIC PROPERTIES SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-055, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, GEORGIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FORMAL PROCEDURES FOR CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION, PROTECTION OF INFORMATION, AND STEWARDSHIP OF CULTURAL RESOURCES THAT MAY BE FOUND AT MARINE COPRS LOGISTICS BASE ALBANY, GEORGIA SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-063, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH EAST CENTRAL OKLAHOMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., FOR ELECTRIC SERVICES AT THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR-064, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC., BUSINESS EDITION CUSTOMER AGREEMENT FOR INTERNET SERVICE TO THE WILSON CHARTERED INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-069, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MSUCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ELECTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY SYSTEM SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-

AUTHORIZING THE OKMULGEE INDIAN HEALTH CENTER TO USE THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO PLACE ON A COOKBOOK TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-071, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING TR 07-038 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO TRACK SEX OFFENDERS LIVING ON MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION INDIAN COUNTRY) SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (13-9-0) NCA 07-143, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF “KING COAL DEPOT” A MUSEUM AND TOURIST ATTRACTION LOCATED IN HENRYETTA, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON (\$224,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT**, **ANTHONY NOTARO**, **PETE BEAVER**, **BILL FIFE**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JEFF FIFE**, **BO JOHNSON**, **JAMES JENNINGS** AND **SHIRLENE ADE**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-150, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) 2007 TRIBAL AWARD AND REQUIRED TRIBAL MATCH FOR THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE SPONSOR: SYLVANNA CALDWELL (\$22,712.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-151, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING A TITLE IV-B SUBPART 2 (“PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES”) GRANT AND REQUIRED TRIBAL MATCH FOR THE CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$115,023.75);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-152, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO LIBERTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THEIR HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM RENOVATION PROJECT SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE; CO-SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$33,000.00);

- APPROVED (19-2-1) NCA 07-154, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 7 ESTABLISH A STIPEND FOR MEMBERS OF THE CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

VOTING NO WERE: **RON CLEGHORN** AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **PAULA WILLITS**;

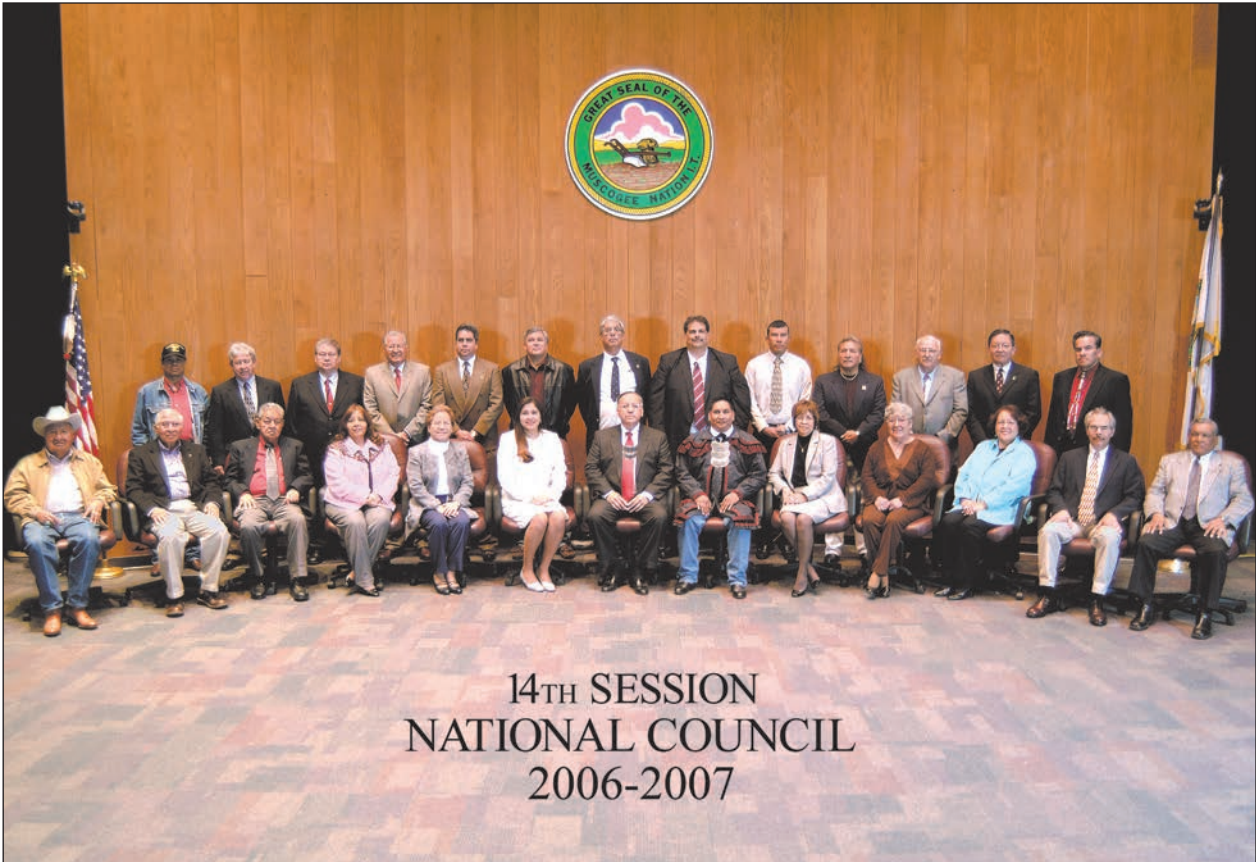
- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-156, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE 2006 INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT FUNDS AND APPROVING THE BUDGET SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-157, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER TO REPLENISH THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT FUND SPONSOR: BILL FIFE; CO SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$50,000.00);

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-1) NCA 07-159, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-132 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A LIQUOR AND BEVERAGE CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, “TAXATION AND REVENUE,” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION), AS AMENDED BY NCA 06-222 SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

ABSTAIN WERE: **TOM PICKERING**;

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (22-0-0) NCA 07-161, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ALABAMA-COUSHATTA BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW FELLOWSHIP HALL (\$52,000.00);



- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-162, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-185 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CLARIFYING THE POSITION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MUSCOGEE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITE OF HICKORY GROUND NEAR WETUMPKA, ALABAMA AND AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE COST OF NECESSARY MEASURES REQUIRED TO SECURE AND PROTECT THE SITE AND/OR CAUSE COMMERCIAL AND GAMING ACTIVITY TO CEASE) SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE (\$30,000.00);

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (19-3-0) NCA 07-163, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO CONSTRUCT AND EQUIP A FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR LITTLE CUSSETAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. CLEGHORN; B. JOHNSON; T. NOTARO; J. FIFE; T. SCOTT (\$189,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, **RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-165, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO “FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME” ORGANIZATION FOR DAY OF CHAMPIONS FOOTBALL AND SOFTBALL CAMPS SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$43,625.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-166, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DUSTIN INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$27,883.00);

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (17-5-0) NCA 07-170, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-

TION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 16, CHAPTER 4 ENTITLED “LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT” SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO**, **LENA WIND**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JEFF FIFE** AND **THOMAS YAHOLA**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-172, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO OKMULGEE INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH AND CHURCH OF THE TRUE VINE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS; CO-SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE (\$40,383.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-174, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER;

- APPROVED (18-4-0) NCA 07-177, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEER SPONSORSHIP FOR THE 2007 NATIONAL UNITY CONFERENCE JULY 6-10, 2007 IN OKLAHOMA CITY SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$25,000.00);

voting no were: **Sylvanna Caldwell**, **Shirlene Ade**, **Cherrah Quiett** and **Paula Willits**;

- APPROVED (21-0-1) NCA 07-179, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 14, ENTITLED “CRIME AND PUNISHMENTS” SPONSOR: EDDIE LaGRONE; CO-SPONSOR(S): J. FIFE; D. HARJO;

ABSTAIN WERE: **BO JOHNSON**.

JULY 12, EMERGENCY SESSION VETO MESSAGE:

- VETO OVERRIDE (18-8-0) NCA 07-167, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON CEN-

TEMPT GENERALLY, PUNISHMENT FOR DIRECT AND INDIRECT CONTEMPT; INDIRECT CONTEMPTS-PROCEEDINGS”;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, **ANTHONY NOTARO**, **ROBERT JONES**, **KEEPER JOHNSON**, **JAMES JENNINGS**, **LARRY BIBLE**, **CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **PAULA WILLITS**;

- VETO OVERRIDE (23-3-0) NCA 07-168, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DECLARING THE RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL A CIVIL RIGHT;

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES**, **KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS: REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-180, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A GIFTED AND EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETE TO PARTICIPATE IN A NATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT IN ELGIN, ILLINOIS;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 07-185, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MCINTOSH TUMBLERS TO COMPLETE IN THE 2007 AMATEUR ATHLETIC UNION JUNIOR OLYMPIC GAMES;

- APPROVED ((25-0-0) NCA 07-190, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE ELECTION BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR LEGAL COUNSEL.



BUSINESS/GAMING



Moving right along

As for the new Tulsa Casino, the schedule has increased quite a bit, the workers are still working a lot of weekends and are working lots of days and hours in order to keep things going as planned. The forecast received from Jerry Lawson is that the production is ahead of schedule. From the last update more and more concrete work has and is being done. The concrete deck, kitchen areas and the gaming areas are close to half done. The underground parking garage has been started and is a little less than half done. In addition to the concrete work being done some elevators are being installed.

Tulsa Casino Update



Nicholas Howk/MNN

Did You Know?

by Thompson Gouge
Public Relations Representative

Hensci! It's another great day here at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation! Many tribal citizens have an opinion of the tribe's performance in all areas. Receiving late information, I believe is the concern of tribal citizens outside of the Capitol Complex area. Many of you feel that you are the last to receive any type of notice of any functions that are taking place throughout the communities. My duty for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is to promote all events that are taking place throughout this Nation. I will also be managing outside communication of the tribe to create and maintain a positive image. Many have seen the broadcasts of current events throughout other tribes on television, news articles and radio. As a Tribe, we also want to broadcast all special events and let others know what the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is doing. The heartbeat of this nation is YOU the Creek citizen of this great nation and you as the people need to be represented in a good manner. My belief is that we have been doing great things not only at the Capitol Complex, but throughout all our Indian communities. The marketing for our casinos are spectacular and I feel that is the only promotion for the Tribe. In the future I plan to better the Muscogee (Creek) Nation image by networking with other outside entities and promoting the tribe by news releases and commercials. These are just the few avenues and tools that will help promote the tribe.

Election time is here and I encourage everyone to use their voice by voting during this election. I believe it is very important to voice your vote on September 22nd.

With that said, here are some of the Departmental and Community Actions that have occurred.

Emergency Management

I recently visited with Mr. James Nichols and he has brought to my attention a new project they have been working on. Three Points of Distribution (PODS) were placed in strategic locations throughout the Muscogee Creek Nation jurisdiction on August 22 and 23. The PODs were placed in Tulsa, Muscogee and Wetumka stocked with emergency supplies such as cots, blankets, sleeping bags, water, flashlights, etc. The PODs will be used to supply shelters within the area during a disaster. The PODs were purchased by the Risk/Emergency Management Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The PODs are airtight, waterproof and they are 8ft wide by 20ft long. Supplies should start being put in the PODs by the end of August or first week in September.

The Emergency Management has been very busy in their line of work, especially on Sunday, August 19th at 4PM. There were two Creek citizens that have reported flooding in their homes at 13th and Chickasaw in Okmulgee. All occupants of the homes are safe and arrangements were made for them to stay with family members overnight. Those families have been directed to the MCN Social Services department for assistance. The residents of the homes have reported that there was 3 to 4 feet of water inside their homes.

Any Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen that received damage due to flooding should contact the MCN Social Services Department at 918-759-2334 and also report any damages to the MCN Emergency Management Disaster Hotline at 918-732-7911.

Reintegration Program

Reintegration Program is coordinating a Re-entry Wellness Conference at the Muscogee Creek Capitol Complex Mound in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on September 19th to the 21st

of September. We recently sent a press release throughout the boundary of Creek Nation and this is what reads:

The Reintegration Program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is proud to announce a Re-Entry Wellness conference to take place at the historical Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Auditorium, in Okmulgee, OK on September 19 to September 21, 2007; this is a free conference open to the public. The purpose of the conference is to focus on strategies that will educate the public, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen and professionals about services available to offenders and their families, from incarceration to release. We urge the community to attend so that they may assist by eliminating those transition barriers and ultimately reunify those families impacted by incarceration.

Each day of the conference a different view of re-entry will be approached. We will kick off the first day of the conference with the opportunity to hear from Correctional officials on topics ranging from Re-Entry, Prison Gangs to Sex Offenders; the second day the focus will cover topics on education, families, treatment and helping in positive ways. Finally, that last day, will focus on employment possibilities and tribal re-entry programs.

The Reintegration Program was passed in General Council in FY 2004, which started as an idea come to fruition with the assistance of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, National Council Representative Keeper Johnson, Okmulgee District, making it the first tribal re-entry service program. In FY 2005 the program was implemented under the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Administration, where it is dedicated to assisting Muscogee (Creek) Citizens with re-entry into their families and communities.

We have found that by providing support before, during and after transition from prison are vital to breaking the cycle of recidivism and enhancing public safety. Above all, we have found that by providing those services and support as a tribal entity, it empowers those incarcerated with a new found pride in them and in their tribe. Our Citizens are those we help with various barriers to transition to empower them to discover choice and enjoy self sufficiency.

The Reintegration Program offers comprehensive services for the transitional process from Oklahoma Department of Corrections and we will continue focusing on supporting people facing barriers to re-entry. Once released they are lacking adequate job skills and those opportunities for employment offer an income with few options that enable them to avoid making choices that can ultimately lead them back to crime. Our commitment to rehabilitation, educational advancement and family, results in helping Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens transition from prison to a good job, a place to live and healthy relationships. If you have any questions regarding this conference, you may contact Tony Fish, Reintegration Program Coordinator, at Toll Free: 1-800-259-1059, or E-Mail at mcn_fish@sbcglobal.net or tony.fish@creekhealth.org.

This program has hit the road running since it was established. This program is a vital in the efforts of successful reintegration and transaction assistance.

Communities

On Saturday, August 18th I had the opportunity to visit the Koweta Indian Community on their First Annual Frybread Cook Off. This was a very rewarding event that I was able to attend. This event was to promote family values amongst our tribal community people and I believe that

it served its purpose. The age limit of this cook off was 12 to 16 years old and these teens were coached by their grandmothers, aunts and mothers. It was a great GATHERING of Creek Indians fellowshiping together with lots of FRYBREAD! My Uncle Wilbur (Chebon) Gouge gave an opening welcome presentation about how FRYBREAD came about to the Creek people and how it was basically not so traditional. Man that did I for me! It was almost like telling me that there is no Santa Claus! I believe that this is a great beginning of how we as Muscogee people can pass down our gifts and knowledge to the next generation.

The next community stop was the Wetumka Indian Community Elderly Nutrition Building Ground Breaking Ceremony. It is good to see that we are still a progressing Tribe through our Indian Community Centers. The official ground breaking of this new facility was on Monday, August 27, 2007. The Principal Chief, National Council Representatives, Community Members, Nutrition Program, MCN Construction Services and Four Feathers Construction were in attendance of this special occasion. Four Feathers Construction and design is Native American owned company and is responsible for the Holdenville Casino Construction.

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise

The Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has been very busy helping to produce a welding program to help provide employment to our Tribal Citizens. An announcement was sent throughout Creek Nation from Mr. Woody Anderson and said:

The Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise an Agency of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, is currently joining with Bechtel Corporation to determine if there are a sufficient amount of Muscogee (Creek) Citizens interested in becoming welders to establish a welding program.

Citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation interested in this program must be willing to travel, pass drug and alcohol testing and commit to working for Bechtel for a minimum period of time. The pay scale for these welders will range from \$20 to \$25 per hour for new welders and up to as much as \$28 per hour depending on skill level. Citizens interested in becoming a welder may contact Mr. Woody Anderson, Business Development Manager, at (918) 752-3154 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM Monday through Sunday.

Numerous meetings have occurred to bring this great opportunity to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. So far there are 41 tribal citizens that are interested in this welding program.

The Muscogee Nation Business Enterprises has also placed an emergency response mechanism in a tribal citizens home here in Okmulgee, OK. The recipient of this mechanism is Cpl Wes Baker, 6th Marine Division USMC WW II Veteran. This will allow Mr. Baker to press a button if he is in need of medical attention to activate the receiver to contact the Lighthouse Department for any emergency response. Mr. Baker will have reception within 300 feet diameter area around the receiver located in the home. It was an honor to see that our veterans are being taking care of the by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This is just the beginning of things yet to come through our Great Nation.

I would like to give gratitude to the people who are making a difference in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by giving their all to help make a better Nation. One person can not do it by him or herself, but together can! We Are The Muscogee (Creek) Nation!

CASINO PROMOTIONS

Envelope Envy
Don't miss your chance to pick one of 160 envelopes and win your share of over \$70,000 in prizes! Each drawing winner will be allowed to pick an envelope containing a prize worth up to \$5,000! Drawings occur Sunday through Thursday at 9 am, 1 pm, 5 pm, and 11 pm.

This One's for the Girls – Ladies Night
Mondays at 6 pm through September 24

\$10 Match Play to first 300 ladies who swipe their card, plus hourly progressive cash drawings for \$500 from 7 pm – 10 pm.

Some Guys have all the Luck – Men's Night
Wednesdays at 6 pm through September 26

\$10 Match Play to first 300 guys who swipe their card, plus hourly progressive cash drawings for \$500 from 7 pm – 10 pm.

Seniors Bucks & Breakfast
Monday & Tuesday
7 am-11 am

Seniors 55 and up will receive a \$4 off coupon for the breakfast buffet at the

Full Moon Café and \$5 match play on designated machines. A weekly drawing will be held on Tuesdays at 11 am for a lucky senior to win a one night stay at the Cedar Rock Inn Bed and Breakfast!

POKER TOURNAMENTS:
NEW Omaha High Bad Beat Jackpot
Play Omaha High daily for a chance to win your share of \$5,000!

Ladies Night
No Limit Texas Hold'em
Mondays at 7 pm - \$30 Buy in

Men's Night
The Big One
No Limit Texas Hold'em
Wednesdays at 7 pm- \$115 Buy in

The Big Bounty
Poker Tournament
Thursdays & Sundays at 7 pm - \$115 Buy in

Daily River Showdown
No Limit Texas Hold'em
Every day at 9:30 am.- \$50 Buy in

ENTERTAINMENT:

Now featuring live entertainment every Thursday through Saturday night! Visit www.creeknationcasino.com for a complete line-up!

Creek man owns/operates Cartridge World

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

Are you tired of paying outrageous prices for printer cartridges? Well, Darrell Fox and his family own and operate a the largest Cartridge World store in the nation. This store is located in downtown Sapulpa, OK. Darrell is a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen who has his Masters in Business Administration and is making a difference in the world we live in today.

Located at 32 W. Taft St. in Sapulpa, Cartridge World has been in business since March 2007. The business specializes in ink and laser toner refill and manufacturing. Cartridge World can refill or replace ink and laser cartridges of all major brand some of which include: Brother, Cannon, Dell, Epson, Hewlett Packard, Lexmark, Samsung, Sharp and many more.

There is no need to be leary of refilled cartridges not working. The company offers a 100 percent satisfaction guarantee on their work.

Fox said, "If our customers are not 100 percent satisfied, we will replace the product or give your money back."

Not only does Cartridge World offer a quality product, they also offer free delivery, free printer diagnostics and a wide variety of cartridge replacements.

When Fox and his family refill empty ink jet or laser cartridges, they specially formulated them to match the original manufacturer standards and not only are customers saving money by refilling, they are also preserving the environment by recycling cartridges. Cartridge World is committed to contributing to helping save the environment. Recycling cartridges is environmentally friendly and you can feel good about supporting sustainable development for the planet's limited

natural resources and not adding to our already overloaded landfills.

By utilizing the services that Cartridge World has to offer, consumers no longer have to throw out expensive

printer cartridges. Most printer cartridges can be re-manufactured, refilled or reloaded. People can save 30 - 50 percent on getting a cartridge refilled rather than purchasing a new cartridge.

Darrell and his family have a history in the areas of Sapulpa and Mounds. Darrell graduated from Mounds and his wife Delda graduated from Sapulpa, so when the opportunity to open a Cartridge World, Sapulpa was an obvious choice.

After college, Darrell worked in the oil and gas industry and traveled all over the world, then he spent four years with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as Director of Tribal Affairs under Chief Beaver. After his time working for the Nation, Fox went back to work in the oil and gas industry and a little over a year ago he was reading an article in the Wall Street Journal regarding Cartridge World. After he arrived in Tulsa, Fox decided to meet with Cartridge World and following the meeting decided to purchase a Cartridge World franchise with intentions of opening five more franchises across central Oklahoma.

The locations Fox has chosen for his next stores are Okmulgee, Bristow, West Tulsa and near Highway 117 and Highway 75. He is hoping to have the Okmulgee store open before the end of this year.

To get business Fox is always out in the field looking for new customers. Most of his new customers come from the business he solicits on his own, but he also receives walk-in customers. So if you are interested in getting a cartridge filled



Darrell Fox

Creek Nation Casino–Tulsa gets in on the fun for the PGA Championship

By Jason Salsman
Staff Writer

TULSA – The professional golf tour made a stop in Tulsa this past month for its last major tournament of the year, The PGA Championship. The week-long event, in its 89th year, brought the best golfers in the world to our backyard and drew over 300,000 fans to the metro area.

With the eyes of the sports world being fixed on Creek country and the high amount of folks in town for the big event, there were advertisement opportunities for local businesses in the form of guest chalets. The chalets were a way for entrepreneurs to thank guests for their patronage by providing an air-conditioned atmosphere equipped with food and beverages, while being a corporate sponsor for the tournament. Specifically the Creek Nation Casino-Tulsa, which is located in close proximity to Southern Hills, was given an outstanding opportunity to showcase its venue along the river and provide amenities to their guests.

Kyle Lee, Advertising and Promotions manager at CNC-Tulsa, explained

how Creek Nation Casino was thrilled to partner up with the PGA. "We're right down the road from Southern Hills, and the PGA is a first-class organization that has an amazing following," said Lee. "We saw this as an opportunity to put the casino out there for the world to see, and showcase the progress that we are making here in Tulsa." The progress Lee spoke of is the multi-million dollar construction

ongoing at the Riverside site. The casino's chalet at Southern Hills showcased the new facility as it included renderings of the new casino as well as samples of interior décor. "We are really excited to be able to show our guests the plans we have for the

new center. We're planning on opening in late '08 and we'll be about 3 times the size of our competition," said Lee. "We want to get this out there to the people of Tulsa, in hopes that this will be the place to go."

In addition to the food and drinks, guests of the Creek Nation chalet also received complimentary gift bags and pictures commemorating the event.



HEALTH

From the Desk of the CEO

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted by Judy Aaron, Chief Executive Officer

In the next couple of months you may experience some downtime in Radiology departments at Eufaula, Creek Nation Community Hospital at Okemah and Sapulpa.

The Health System is in the process of replacing outdated Radiology equipment during the months of August and September.

The month of August involved preparing each location to be structurally ready for the new equipment by providing adequate electrical power, ensuring the structure is able to support parts of the equipment, and routing communication lines.

The systems being put in place will one day make it possible for the Health System to communicate across all the locations to view Radiology films online through digital imaging.

The new systems being installed will allow the physicians or mid-level providers to view your X-ray through the computer system and allow quicker access to images.

Our Radiologist will be able to view the films electronically for readings, which will improve the turnaround time for receiving our final reports. This is a outstanding team effort to begin imple-

mentation of this project, and I would like to thank Mr. Seneca Smith, HSA at Sapulpa, the IRM department at Lackey Hall, and the Maintenance department



Judy Aaron

at Okemah. Each group has offered support and hard work to our facilities to help initiate this project.

I also want to thank the staff at each location for expressing this great idea to improve services for our patients. We are excited about the future improvement in our facilities!

Another great effort by a local community is the designation of community revenue by Okemah Community to assist in the purchase of Outpatient

surgery equipment for Creek Nation Community Hospitals.

The outpatient surgery equipment is used to provide scopes of the gastrointestinal tract to assist in preventive health efforts through screening and for diagnostic testing. This will assist the Health System by not having to use Contract Health Service funds for these tests and allow us to bill third party resources as a source of revenue for the Health System.

Since referrals are received from throughout the Health System, the Okemah Community has helped to provide a service for Creek citizens and other patients we serve across Creek Nation. The Health System would like to thank the Okemah Community for their generous donation and their support of Creek Nation Community Hospital.

As always if you have ideas or comments to assist us in improving our services, or even a story of how our staff has done a great job, please contact your local Health System Administrator, or my office at 918-756-4443. Many thanks to the staff committed to serving our patients, it is only through your great ideas and efforts we will continue to improve.

DOCTOR's NOTE

Hepatitis C: A Growing Concern Among The Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Submitted by Zack Anderson MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer

An estimated 4 million Americans have been infected with hepatitis C, five times the number of those infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The Oklahoma State Department of Health estimates more than 50,000 Oklahomans have been infected with hepatitis C. Also there have been studies by the Division of Health showing a rise in the amount of those with Hepatitis C.

"Many Oklahomans are unaware of their infection because they do not feel ill," said State Health Commissioner J.R. Nida, M.D. "This is a major public health concern, if we are to detect the infection and limit hepatitis C transmission."

The word "hepatitis" means inflammation of the liver. Although there are many causes of inflammation, viral infection is a common cause. Viral infections include hepatitis A, hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

Hepatitis A is transmitted by close personal contact with a person with the disease or ingestion of food contaminated by a person infected with hepatitis A. Hepatitis B and hepatitis C are infections transmitted primarily through blood. The majority of people infected with Hepatitis A and B recover from the illness and are considered immune.

In contrast, up to 85 percent of those infected with Hepatitis C cannot clear the infection and the virus continues to multiply within their body.

These people are referred to as "chronically infected" with hepatitis C and are potentially contagious to others. About



Zack Anderson

half of chronically infected persons will eventually develop liver disease, such as cirrhosis or cancer of the liver.

The primary risk factors for hepatitis C include injecting-drug use and exposure to blood in the health-care setting. Sexual transmission may occur but the risk appears to be low. Blood transfusion-associated cases that occurred prior to blood donor screening are now very rare. These may be a method of exposing individuals to another's blood.

Symptoms of all viral hepatitis are similar and include yellowing of the skin, fatigue, abdominal pain, loss

of appetite and bouts of nausea and vomiting. When initially infected with hepatitis C, only one of ten people will have symptoms. It can be years, even decades, before a person chronically infected with hepatitis C begins to experience symptoms serious enough to prompt seeking medical care.

Testing for hepatitis C is available through your primary care physician. A screening test may also be obtained at an Oklahoma Blood Institute site for \$10.00. Persons for whom testing is recommended include those who received a blood transfusion or organ transplant prior to July 1992, those who received clotting factor concentrates prior to 1987, chronic hemodialysis patients, persons who ever injected illegal drugs, even if a few times many years ago, health care and public safety workers after exposure to HCV-positive blood and children born to hepatitis C-positive women.

Several drugs are licensed for the treatment of hepatitis C and are effective for many cases, but not all. Support groups are available in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Information regarding scheduled meetings can be obtained at www.searchok.com/~hepcsupportokc. For more information on HCV, contact the county health department in your area or visit the OSDH Web site at www.health.state.ok.us. Once again, MVTO, for allowing the MCNHS to share this information with you.

The Muscogee(Creek) Nation WIC Program now offers Hugster® breastfeeding pillows

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program is proud to announce the arrival of our new Hugster® breastfeeding pillows! Because of their size, the pillow fits everyone.

The adjustable velcro fastener allows Mom to breastfeed while sitting or standing and the removable cover makes it easy to keep clean.

All WIC Moms who have breastfed for at least four weeks can ask for a



pillow. The pillows come in three adorable styles to choose from. Our Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program is set up to educate, support and encourage Mothers to breastfeed and the pillows are another way of showing we care.

Please feel free to contact Cassandra Harjo, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor or Connie Fox, Breastfeeding Coordinator at 918-758-2722 for more information.

Preparations for the 2007 "Pink Party" in progress

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center continues to prepare for the 2007 "Pink Party." The Pink Party, a breast cancer awareness event, will be held on Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at the Tribal complex.

Tentative plans are to house the Pink Party in a large tent since attendance has grown to be more than the Mound building can accommodate.

The keynote speaker for this year's program will be Linda Burhansstipanov, Dr.PH, from the Native American Cancer Research Corp.

The Pink Party is open to everyone and in addition to the keynote speaker, will feature exhibits, door prizes, refreshments and fellowship.

The goal of the Pink Party is to heighten awareness, detection, treatment and prevention of breast cancer.

The Breast Cancer Survivors

Brunch will be held on Saturday, October 13, 2007, at the Elderly Nutrition Center in Okmulgee. The brunch will be open to all breast cancer survivors



who pre-register. Pre-registration for the survivor's brunch will begin in September 2007.

The Mvskoke Seniors for Cultural Preservation and Promotion have made clothespin dolls dressed in Creek and

other tribal regalia as centerpieces for this year's brunch.

The Pink Party Planning Committee was fortunate to have the Mvskoke Seniors group make dolls as centerpieces for the second year in a row to— last year the group made cornhusk dolls.

The dolls and other materials from past Pink Party's will be highlighted in a display case beginning in September at the Tribal Complex. The Okmulgee Indian Health Center thanks the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Administration and National Council for their support of the past Pink Party's.

An event of this size cannot be successful without the cooperation and assistance of many employees and contributing entities. For further information, call the Okmulgee Indian Health Center Women's Clinic at (918) 758-2717.

HEALTHNOTES

MCN Nene Hokvce Walking Program

The MCN Walking Program is an incentive and recognition based program. The program was initiated by the MCN Diabetes Program and funded, and supported by the MCN Tribal Council. This first year our goal was to enroll 500 participants. We exceeded that mark when 819 participants initially signed up and 253 participants stayed active and finished the program.

During the program, participants could win individual NIKE prizes such as: shoe wallets, socks, sport towel, basketballs, back packs, gym bags, hat, visors and exercise bands. At the end of the program there were three levels of achievements that the participants were reaching for.

Level 1 - Lifestyle Walkers - participants reaching this level won a program t-shirt and one raffle ticket for a chance to win a treadmill, elliptical machine or recumbent exercise bike. Participants reaching this level had to earn 1200 to 3599 points by exercising and moving each day. There were 181 that reached this level.

Level 2 - High Steppers - participants that reached this level won a program t-shirt, NIKE Shoes and 2 raffle tickets for a chance to win a treadmill, elliptical machine or recumbent exercise bike. Participants reaching this level had to earn 3600 to 4799 points by exercising and moving each day. There were 68 participants that reached this level.

Level 3 - Super Striders - participants that reached this level won a program t-shirt, NIKE shoes, NIKE wind suits and 3 raffle tickets for a chance to win a treadmill, elliptical machine or recumbent exercise bike. Participants reaching this level had to earn 4800 to 6000 points by exercising and moving each day. There were 73 participants that reached this level.

The participants that received raffled tickets were in the drawing for a treadmill, elliptical machine or recumbent exercise bike. Five pieces of exercise equipment were raffled off with one given away in each clinic area. Congratulations to those that won the exercise equipment.

These are the totals that received incentives for reaching the different levels of achievements: 253 participants received

t-shirts, 110 participants received a pair of Nike shoes, 61 participants received the Nike wind suits, and 5 participants won a treadmill, elliptical machine or recumbent exercise bike.

The individual incentives and prizes motivated many people to keep walking and exercising throughout the program. Many communities worked together and motivated each other to keep participating for the chance to earn the community grand prize, a walking trail to be built in their community by the MCN Roads Division.

The Walking Program would like to recognize the community in each clinic area who won the walking trail: Sapulpa Clinic Area – Bristow Community; Eufaula Clinic Area – Stidham Community; Okmulgee Clinic Area – Okmulgee Community; Okemah Clinic Area – Paden Community; and Koweta Clinic Area – Koweta Community.

These communities earned their walking trail by having 20 participants reach Level 1 (1400 pts) by the end of the program and having the highest average points per community.

The Diabetes Prevention Program would like to thank all that participated in this MCN Walking Program. Congratulations to participants that finished the program and received their rewards. Next year's walking program will begin November 1.

The Diabetes Program staff will start having community sign-ups during the month of October.

If your community would like to schedule a walking program sign-up for the month of October, call the Diabetes Program Exercise Manager in your area at: Okemah – Scott Robison at 1-800-219-9458 ext 458; Okmulgee – Irene Culley at 1-918-756-9911 ext. 334; Eufaula – Kimberlee Little at 1-918-689-2540 ext. 257; Sapulpa – William Fixico at 1-918-224-9310 ext. 238; Koweta – Dewayne Tiger at 1-918-279-3392.

The Walking Program would prefer to have the sign-up a night different from the community monthly meeting. The Walking Program will send out an information flyer to all the different communities in September.

A Word from the Dietitian

By Melissa Scheef, RD/LD, Sapulpa Clinic

SAPULPA — Patients often ask me about snacking. Should they have them? What kind should they have? How much should they have? Does it matter what time of day they eat them?

Snacking is fine if done wisely. Snacking is also very appropriate for growing children, as their bodies are burning a lot of calories during growth spurts. Both what you eat and how much you eat can be equally as important. In terms of weight control, you must not eat more calories than your body needs, or else you must go work it off (exercise). Eating more food than your body can use causes weight gain.

Snacks are meant to either compliment meals or to "get you by" until your next meal, not replace them. This means your snack should not have the same number of calories as your meal!

For example, suppose you needed 2,000 calories per day to maintain (stay at) your current weight. You could divide this out to be 600 calories at each meal (600 at breakfast, 600 at lunch, and 600 at dinner) for 1800 calories. The remaining 200 calories would be your "snack calories". Depending on how far apart you spaced your meals, you could have one snack at 200 calories, or 2 snacks at 100 calories.

The timing of the snack, or your meals, is not going to affect your weight. Your weight changes based on how much food you have eaten (or not eaten), and how much exercise you have gotten (or not gotten). Time only

becomes a factor when you skip meals. This does several things; first it slows down your metabolism. This causes your body to "hang onto" every calorie it has so that weight loss becomes harder and weight gain becomes easier. Want to lose weight? Eat regular meals. Second, people who skip meals usually end up very hungry at some point and then have little self control when it comes to portion sizes and choosing "good" foods.

What foods to snack on? The 100-calorie snack packs are great for portion control but have refined grains that will leave you hungry again pretty soon. Try pairing a whole grain or fruit/vegetable with a protein or "good" fat. Examples: a small piece of fruit with peanut butter (or ¼ cup any nuts), Carnation Instant Breakfast with skim milk, string cheese or whole grain crackers with low fat cheese, raw veggies with fat free dip, 1 cup fat free fruited yogurt with 1 tablespoon granola. These snacks do not have exactly 100 to 200 calories each.

Read the labels to figure out which one is best for you. Smoothies can also be good, but the serving sizes, and ingredients, have gotten out of control.

To learn more about healthy eating call any of the MCN dietitians at your local clinic. The Sapulpa clinic is hosting a cooking class on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30. There is no cost but you must call by the Friday before to reserve your seat.

Class size is limited to the first 20 callers. The number is (918) 224-9310 ext. 242.

Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camp 2007

The Community Diabetes Prevention program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation offered five different 4 Day Summer Youth Camps that stressed healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention. The first 3 days included diabetes prevention education, cultural activities and FUN. The last day was a field trip to BIG SPLASH in Tulsa, OK. At this year's Diabetes Prevention Camps, we had 136 campers.

Holdenville Camp had 41 campers, Henryetta Camp had 24 campers, Checotah Camp had 20 campers, Coweta Camp had 27 campers and Sapulpa

Camp had 24 campers.

This year's camps included many different activities stressing physical activity and fun, such as stickball, soccer clinic, golf clinic, swimming, PE type games and activities and bowling. The Checotah Camp was able to use the ropes course in Eufaula.

The Diabetes Prevention Program would like to extend our gratitude to these programs: MCN Child Care program and MCN Senior Services for providing transportation and to the Youth Wellness Program for volunteering their time to help with camp.

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Phil Booker, selected to serve as a charter member of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC)

by Thompson Gouge

OKMULGEE — Mr. Phil Booker has been selected to serve as a charter member of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC). The Council incorporates representatives of state, tribal and local government, who will advise us on emergency management issues and help identify strengths,

weaknesses or deficiencies in disaster preparedness, protection, response, recovery and mitigation.

The Post — Katrina Emergency Reform Act of 2006 required the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Offices to develop a RAC. The requirements for these councils came outside of

the federal budget cycle and as such, funding constraints preclude the ability to fund travel. While there will be challenges faced in the beginning, the opportunities to improve readiness and response in our region far exceeds the challenges.

"I am honored to serve the native

tribes of Oklahoma on this advisory council," said Mr. Booker.

Booker has been employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for four years and is doing a great job for this Nation. If you look around in these tribal buildings you will see emergency exit route signs by each exit door. He is also in charge of the insurance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation property such as tribal vehicles and buildings. Here is a tidbit to give you a better description of what the Risk Management is about.

The Risk Management Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation began in 2003 and is located in the Human Development Building. The purpose of the department is to implement the safety of all Tribal employees. A Safety Manual has been prepared and issued to all Muscogee (Creek) Nation departments. The manual consists

of a first aide policy emergency plans, and bloodborne pathogens. It also provides appropriate guidelines for maintenance operations and work permits. The main goal is to support employee driven safety and health teams. Proper training programs that ensure safety will be provided and it will keep all safety procedures updated. It will also help maintain a safe and healthy work environment and take a proactive approach to all accidents/incidents.

The purpose of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management office is to identify and evaluate the risks and protect the assets of the Tribe and its Enterprises and wellbeing of its employees. The intent is for the Tribe to reduce the "Cost of Risk" which is created by its operations. The cost effective concepts include uninsured losses, claims adjustment expenses, risk control expenses and administrative costs. The main goal is to meet all these guidelines, risks created by Tribal operations are to be kept to a minimum and claims that arise from injuries or property damage will be handled in a way to reduce their impact to the operations that are involved.

For more information on the subject of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Safety and Insurance you may contact: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447, (918) 732-7794 or fax: (918) 732-7796.



Chief attend Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission Committee Meeting



Pictured above are OIAC Commissioners, EX Officio Members and Advisory Committee members.

Chief A.D. Ellis attended his first meeting with the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission Committee meeting on Thursday September 20, 2007. The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission is charged with the mission of serving as the liaison between Oklahoma's tribal population and governments and the Oklahoma State government. The Commission carries out its duty with the guidance of four statutorily determined goals: the creation of state and federal legislation, the creation of an advisory committee, the develop-

ment and implementation of research projects and reports and the development of cooperative programs between tribes and state, federal, local, private entities, health organizations, educational agencies, tourism and economic development entities.

It was also so great to see another Muscogee (Creek) citizen by the name of Valerie Littlecreek, EX Officio designee for Department of Education, Director of Tribal for the Dept of Education for the State of Oklahoma.

Head start holds 2007 Health, Fire and Safety Fair

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Starts 2007 Health, Fire & Safety Fair was a big success this school year. There were over 300 children that came and enjoyed all the healthy give-a-way and the literature to take home to share with their families. There were approximately 29 booths and 10 sponsors to make the Fair a success.



I would to that this opportunity to THANK everyone that came out and made this Fair a success. The Children and the community really had a great day. I look forward in seeing you all again next year. Again thanks for all you do and either attending or participating in the Health, Fire and Safety Fair.

Upcoming Events for November and December

Social Services taking applications next month

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department will begin applications next month for past participants of the Nation's Heating Assistance Programs (LIHEAP/Tribal Energy).

Past participants will be receiving notices in November to schedule appointments for December dates. Participants residing outside the service area will not be required to make appointments, but will be receiving notices with application instructions as they have in previous years.

All others interested in the Programs may apply beginning January 14, 2008 on a walk-in basis. For more information on either Energy Program, please contact Social Services at 918-759-2334.

Benefit Bingo and Food Sale

HANNA — There will be a Benefit Bingo and Food sale for Wilbur Chebon Gouge on Saturday, December 8, at 2pm at the Hanna Indian Community Center east of Hanna, Okla. Donations will be appreciated.

Christmas Bazaar

TULSA — The Tulsa Indian Com-

munity will be having a Christmas Bazaar on December 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The center is located at 8611 South Union Ave. For more information Contact the Center at 918-298-2464. Venders \$20 or Gift at same value. Reserve early, limited tables available.

Morris Indian Community will hold elections

MORRIS — The Morris Indian Community will be holding elections of Board Members on Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Trinity Baptist Church in the Activity Building. For more information contact Daniel at 918-733-9382.

HOUSINGSERVICES

With wildfire season in Oklahoma here again, being prepared can often make a difference

This fall and winter will likely not present anywhere near the wildfire dangers we faced during the drought stricken conditions we had last year here within the Creek Nation. But don't think that the danger of wildfires won't again exist during the coming seasons. After all the devastation caused by last year's wildfires, and often directly affecting our Creek Citizens, we still have the memory of the destruction wildfires can cause.

Last year the severe drought set the stage for wildfires not seen for decades and hopefully not for many decades to come, but wildfires will always be a part of the Oklahoma environment. That is why we still need to be cautious and prepared to take steps that could save a house and maybe even a life.

Implementing as many of the following tips as possible may be the difference between putting out a fire before it reaches your home or sustaining substantial fire damage.

1. Form a defensible space around your home.

Creating a 30 foot zone of fire-resistant space around your home can prevent fires from starting near or spreading to your home. Keeping the grass and weeds cut to less than 4" can prevent the rapid spread of fire and high flames.

2. Reduce the number of nearby trees.

Remove or thin overcrowded or small diameter trees. Prune low hanging branches from the ground to eliminate "ladder fuels." If you have trees close to your house, trim branches that overhang your roof.

3. Clear wood piles and building materials away from your home and outbuildings.

Keep burnable materials at least 20 feet from your home and outbuildings. Clear all brush at least 10 feet away from wood and debris piles. Although stacking wood close to the house may be convenient if you use a wood stove to heat your home it can also become a volatile source of fuel for a fire.

4. Keep your yard and roof

clean.

Clear leaves and debris from your yard. Removing leaves and other debris from your roof and gutters eliminates ignition sources. Remove overhanging and dead limbs.

5. Use alternatives to burning debris.

Instead of burning, recycle or compost your yard waste. This type of burning is often a source of grass fires and typically occurs in the vicinity of the home. Remember people start most wildfires.

6. Be prepared to respond to a wildfire.

Dress properly during a wildfire. Cotton and wool fabrics are preferred to synthetics. Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket, gloves, goggles, boots and a damp handkerchief to shield your face. Place large plastic trash cans or buckets around the outside of the house and fill them with water. Soak burlap sacks, small rugs and large rags; these can be helpful in beating out burning embers or small fires. Place an aluminum ladder against the roof of the house opposite the side of the approaching fire for easy access. If you have a combustible roof, wet it down. Inside the house, fill bathtubs, sinks and other containers with water. Water from toilet tanks and water heaters can also be used.

7. Be prepared to evacuate

If told to evacuate do so immediately. Account for all family members and pets. Call someone and let them know where you are going. Take valuable papers and mementos. If you have time close windows, vents, doors, venetian blinds or non-combustible window coverings and heavy drapes. Remove lightweight curtains. Shut off gas at the meter or turn off propane tanks, and Turn off pilot lights.

8. After the fire passes

Check the roof immediately. Extinguish any sparks or embers. Check inside the attic for hidden burning embers. Over the next several hours continue monitoring your home for signs of smoke and embers.



Last year's wildfire season was one of the worst most of us can remember but don't discount the fact that each autumn in Oklahoma brings the risk of wildfires and grass fires.

Tulsa State Fair



Pictured are Cynthia Freeman and Della Cherry volunteering at the Creek Nation Information Booth at the Tulsa State Fair.

by Thompson Gouge

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has joined with Creek Nation Tulsa Casino at the Tulsa State Fair that began on Thursday September 27, 2007. This was our first year to participate in promoting our tribe at the Tulsa State Fair.

Our booth has been a great suc-

cess because it has given us the opportunity to reach more of our Creek Citizens and answer their questions concerning our services," said Jan Hart, Training/Recruiting Coordinator for the Personnel Office.

This is just the beginning of what will be happening with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

EDUCATION

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMPLOMENT AND TRAINING FRYBREAD-X

Employment Assistance

Applicants must be at least 1/4 or more of any federally recognized tribe and reside within the Creek Nation jurisdictional boundaries. There must be a break in income for at least 30 days. The assistance is \$200.00 for a new full time job. This assistance can only be received twice in a lifetime. Temporary and part time service positions are ineligible for this program. You may contact Jaynel Westbrook at 732-7778.

Support Services

Native Americans of any federally recognized tribe, whom reside in the Creek Nation jurisdictional boundaries and starting a new job, may qualify for this service. Full-time job participants receive \$100.00. Assistance is also available for uniform items in place of financial assistance if the company requires specific attire. For more information, please call Jaynel Westbrook at 918-732-7778.

Tribal Grants and Incentives

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Employment & Training Office offers a Tribal Vocational & Incentive Grant to any Creek enrolled citizen enrolled in vocational school. If approved, the student will receive the Tribal grant approximately a month after class begins. After completion of the course(s), the student has 6 weeks to turn in a transcript from the attending school. If the student has maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher, the student may be eligible for an incentive grant.

High school students concurrently attending a vo-tech or junior college are also eligible. Any student that is attending junior college that will graduate with an Associates of Applied Science are also eligible. No Deadline! Apply anytime! For more information, please call Jaynel Westbrook at 918-732-7778.

G.E.D. And Incentives

THE DOOR TO SUCCESS IS OPEN. All you have to do is walk on through. GED CLASSES. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment & Training Office will be offering GED classes at the Human Development Building. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. You do not have to attend the whole day if it is

inconvenient for you. You may attend the hours that work for you. CLASSES ARE FREE. The Employment and Training Program will pay the cost of testing. There is a \$300.00 incentive when you pass your test. You may contact Deborah McGirt at 918-732-7780. Open entry (may enroll anytime).

Must have a Tribal Citizenship Card.

A.C.T

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Employment & Training office will pay the A.C.T. fee for persons 16-21 who were participants of the Summer Youth program of 2007 Employment and Training will assist with the paper application only. The participant will need to complete the A.C.T. Assessment National Registration folder. A copy of page one will need to be sent back to the Employment & Training office. Deadlines are important! Therefore, please give this office at least 2 weeks notice as to when and where you will be taking the your A.C.T. test. No late fees will be paid by this office. You may contact Sebrina Lee at 732-7776.

S.P.U.R.S.

START PLANNING for ULTIMATE RESULTS The S. P. U. R. Program was formed by the Okmulgee County Workforce Council while partnering with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as well as, other local organizations. S. P. U. R. is a program to aid qualified high school students with books and fees. Students must be concurrently enrolled in high school and OSU-Okmulgee.

Eligibility criteria may be obtained from OSU-Okmulgee or the Employment & Training office located at the main complex, in the Human Development Building. You may contact Sebrina Lee at 732-7776.

Adult Educational Allowance

The Creek Nation Adult Educational Program assists Native Americans who are a member of a federally recognized tribe and that live in the boundaries of the Creek Nation. This program assist students who are attending a vocational school. A full time student will receive \$5.00 per hour for every hour in class. Part time students can receive financial

assistance with tuition, books, fees and testing. Schools must be on the Tribal approval list. You may contact Deborah at 732-7780.

Summer Youth Employment Program

The MCN Summer Youth Program is designed to provide youth between the ages of 16 and 21 with employment to gain experience in working at jobs with possible futures. This program is also to help the youth become aware of themselves and how they fit into the work world. The major emphasis will be on helping the youth learn to accept responsibility and to take pride in their jobs. They should also be motivated to work into better jobs through good attendance and good work habits.

This program lasts eight weeks during the summer months of June and July. The participants are paid every two weeks upon receipt of a completed time sheet. Participants are paid for only a 40 hour work week and paid for actual hours worked. No overtime is allowed. For many participants, this will be their first job and it should be a learning experience.

Applications for the Summer Youth Employment Program usually begin at the end of January and the deadline is at end of March. For more information on this program you may call Cindy Russell at 918-732-7775 or Sebrina Lee at 918-732-7776.

Participants must be a member of a federally recognized tribe.

Alternative School

This program is designed to provide Native American alternative school students with work experience. Eligible youth will be assisted in trying to find a part-time job in their local area. This program helps young people gain experience, vocational exploration, responsibility and an income. All participants must live within the boundaries of the Creek Nation, meet the income guidelines and be a member of a federally recognized tribe.

The participant must show proof of enrollment in alternative school. The participant cannot work over 20 hours per week and will only be paid for hours worked. Grades and attendance in school must be maintained or participation will be forfeited. For more information, you may call Sebrina Lee at 918-732-7776.

First Native Science Class Held at OSU Tech



Native Science students and Instructor Paul Shipman. Matt Kirk (sitting), ody McGertt (Far Back) Blake Thornton (crutches), Megan Francis, Angela Alvarez, Forrest Gresham, and William Roberts.

OKMULGEE— In the Native Science class, MCN Summer Youth students explored Native ways of “coming to know”. The purpose of the Native Science class was to introduce students with the knowledge to look at scientific problems by applying a Native Science approach. The students had to understand the important contributions to science made by indigenous peoples of the Americas. The students then considered questions about whether Native science really is science , and if so, how it was different from Western Science. Students came to understand how important scientific discoveries were actually made and how they might draw upon their own unique cultural identities and experiences to do science. The ETA Summer Youth participants will also be involved in next years Native Science Class.

CLASS 1: This class was to learn how the GPS (global positioning system) Units. This consisted of a group of 4 to 6 students which had to use the GPS Unit to find the way points that had been programmed into each group's individual unit. This was sort of like a treasure hunt and at each way point there was picture and the group's had to name the fish in Creek with the correct spelling. There was a cash reward for the first 2 teams that returned back to class first and a cash reward for the group's that had the Creek words spelled correctly.

CLASS 2: This was a discussion class. Once again, there were groups of 3 to 4 students. Each group presented their topic with each student being allotted 2-3 minutes. The different subjects of their discussions consisted of plants, food, medicine, gardening, animals, astronomy, just to name a few.

CLASS 3: This class was a discussion class with the instructor over the reading materials of “Weaving Traditional Ecological Knowledge into Biological Education: A Call to Action”. Such topics consisted of : What is traditional ecological knowledge? Why include traditional ecological knowledge in biological education? How can traditional ecological knowledge be incorporated into mainstream biology education? Protection and appropriate use of traditional ecological knowledge.

If you stop and think about it, some Native Americans are scientist and have been for many years. Western Science refuses to acknowledge the fact that some of their so called discoveries do not belong to them at all. In fact, Native Americans had this knowledge and have been using these methods of science for centuries.

For more information on enrolling in this Native American Science course, you may call the Tribal College at 918-758-1480 or 918-293-5311 and ask for Paul Shipman, Instructor.

HIGHER EDUCATION POST GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Program announces the recent NCA 01-113 legislation passed by the National Council for establishment of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma Post Graduate Program and the availability of funds for graduate assistance for members of the Creek Tribe to further their education beyond a Bachelor's degree for a first time graduate degree.

PURPOSE: TR 04-023 Post Graduate Program is established to provide financial aid opportunities for members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to further their education beyond a Bachelor's degree for a Master's, Doctoral or Professional Degree/Certification.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: The following requirements are used to determine eligibility:

1. Complete Application (attached) with signature
2. Be an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
3. Have earned a Bachelor's degree.
4. Must be pursuing a Master's or Doctorate degree as full-time or part-time graduate student at a nationally accredited college/university in the U.S.
5. If not already attending graduate school, must apply to the graduate

George Washington University offers scholarships for Native American Students

The George Washington University is proud to announce the availability of full scholarships for Native American college students interested in studying in Washington, DC in Spring, 2008 in GW's Semester In Washington Politics program. The Native American Political Leadership Scholarship is funded by a gift from the AT&T Foundation. The scholarships cover full tuition, housing, books, transportation and other expenses. Semester In Washington offers you firsthand knowledge and experience in election and legislative politics.

Application deadline is October 15, 2007.

For more information contact: Gregory G. Lebel, Director Semester in Washington

The George Washington University 1922 F. Street, NW. Rm. 404-A Washington, DC 20052 Tel: (202) 994-2526 Fax: (202) 994-8471 Toll Free: 800-367-4776 Email: glabel@gwu.edu Websites: GW Semester In Washington Semester In Washington: washington internship and washington semester program in DC.

JOM CHALLENGE BOWL 2007

Beginning with the intuitive efforts of one, now many, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl has developed to more than twenty committee members. What began with 21 competitive teams in 2001 has now grown to 103 preparing for the 2008 competition. There are five persons per team bringing the total participants to 565. Teams from inside and outside of Creek Nation jurisdiction are welcome to enter. We currently have 39 elementary teams, 34 middle school teams, and 30 high school teams....WOW!

The Challenge Bowl is motivated by individuals wanting to protect and preserve the culture from generation to generation, and those wanting to learn more about it. It also compels individuals to exercise good citizenship skills. The highest honor in the Challenge Bowl is the Sportsmanship award. The Sportsmanship award is earned by the team which demonstrates respectfulness throughout the duration of their visit at the Challenge Bowl.

Challenge bowl teams from schools, communities, churches and ceremonial grounds meet three times in October for

the cultural challenge. Here is a list of some reasons to participate as a student or as a volunteer: Build relations between parents, Indian communities, school administrators and the Creek Nation employee workforce. Get accurate information about the Creek Nation history. Promote cultural self-esteem and

ture to pass onto our children. Learn how to protect the Creek Nation government, its people, and its horizons for future generations. Learn the Creek language. The Challenge Bowl Committee takes this program very seriously. There are many long hours put into the planning of the Challenge Bowl. The result is a productive activity which stimulates our youth to have a stronger sense of self-worth and high achievement. Through collaborative efforts of the Creek Nation workforce, the program has repeated its success each year. The youth exchange special interests, a memorable experience is shared, and all benefit.

Here are some teasers: “What type of wood(s) is used to make a stick ball stick?” “How did the Muscogee (Creek) Nation get its name?” “Why are there clans?”

“When did Okmulgee become the capital of Muscogee (Creek) Nation?” “Tvn ayets-ka?.....Challenge Bowl!” For more information go to www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Look for the Challenge Bowl icon in orange.

If you would like to volunteer for an official of the games, please contact Melinda Deeringwater @ 759-4172 or mdeeringwater@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

awareness. Become a positive role-model for children, peers and professional acquaintances. Become knowledgeable of historical and present day tribal government.

Learn how to preserve the cul-

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FEATURES

SECTION B

• www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov •

September 2007

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

On Monday I watched the sun set over Battery Park, as we gathered in front of the National Museum of the American Indian in New York for a concert/performance series sponsored by the NMAI in a partnership with the Lincoln Center. The Las Casita stage, with a colorful tarp "house" of brightly painted murals shimmered in front of the steps of the old Customs House. The rush of going-home traffic swirled around the tip of the island. "There used to be a wall here," a singer told me. "The Dutch erected it to keep British settlers out." An indigenous dance and music ensemble from Ecuador opened the set. One of their most poignant tunes was a song in honor of the Amazon and the rainforest. I closed my eyes to listen. I was back in the Amazon listening to the symphony of insects and animals singing at dusk. The river winds through the immense rainforest. It is a huge and complex being. When I was in elementary school in Tulsa I used to do most of my reports on creatures and the place of the Amazon. In 1990 I was present at a hemispheric gathering of native peoples from North through South America in a village outside Quito, when people from the Amazon walked up to the meeting in their brilliantly colored feathers with their spears (their equivalent of a grocery cart). They came to ask for alliances in their struggle against U.S. oil companies who were taking over and destroying their lands. Though our Muscogee people had to deal with some of those same oil companies, and still do, I didn't know what to offer them in the way of advice. The force of the destroyers, those who take more than they need without even asking, appears overwhelming. What can stop them? Will greed one day be listed as an illness, like alcoholism? I finally made it to the Amazon a few years ago. For years I had a recurring dream. I would arrive at Iquitos and a particular man would meet me at the boat that would take me up the river. Sometimes he spoke Navajo. The day I flew into Iquitos from Cuzco the plane was late because we had to make an emergency landing in Pucallpa. (The same plane went down in an accident there a year later. Not everyone was killed. Some people walked home!) Because I was late I missed the scheduled boat



Joy Harjo

to my camp. A smaller boat was rounded up and I was introduced to the man who was to drive me. He looked nothing like the man in my dreams. He and others loaded in the baggage, some bananas and a few other things. Then, another man got in, turned around to say we were leaving. He was the man I had dreamed! He didn't speak Navajo but he looked similar to my Navajo relatives. We drove for three hours up the river. I was absolutely alive every moment as we moved up the river. I especially enjoyed the night paddles into the Amazon to look for caimans (a kind of alligator) and other nocturnal creatures. Every night we'd paddle out, were greeted by a vast orchestra of singing voices of insects and other creatures. I was reminded of Oklahoma in the summer, and being at the ceremonial grounds, just as I was, standing in the noisy drone music of five o'clock traffic in New York City, as I listened to the Ecuadorian troupe making that beautiful tribute to the spirit of the Amazon. I would like to go back to that giant of a river, and would like to take some of our Muscogee people down that way. We might meet some of our old relatives there. One of the other performing groups that late afternoon in front of the steps of the museum was Pamyua. They're from Alaska and perform traditional songs. Some keep their forms. Some they contemporize. They call their music: tribal-jazz-funk. Two brothers, Stephen and Phillip Blanchett, who began sharing the ancient stories of their people through music and dance, started the group. The brothers are Yup'ik Inuit and African American. The third member, Ossie Kairaiuak grew up dancing traditionally in Chefornak, Alaska. Later they added Karina Møller, a Greenlandic Inuit singer. They travel internationally in Europe, Asia, North and South America. They performed at the 45th Annual Grammy Awards in March of 2003. They're the ones you want to hang out with before, during and after the party. Good people with good stories. With groups like this out there representing natives here in North America, there's no reason anyone should cling to worn out images created by a showman who wanted to make money in the 1800's.

We aren't just powwow, either, though powwow might be part of the mix. It's not just tourists or strangers who cling to these images; it's often our own people. And before I forget, recently I was contacted by a couple of people looking for Harjo relatives. A Ken Andersen wrote: "In October 1962 while in Navy boot camp, another young man named Joe Harjo was stationed there with me. At the end of boot camp we were sent different directions. Today...I heard the name, for the first time since 1962. Would you know of this person? He would be about 62-64?" And another from John Harrington: "In 1967-68, I was in Central Thailand with the United States Air Force. One of my friends there was Billy Harjo, an American Indian from Kansas or Oklahoma. He was there as a technician with a contractor to the U.S. government. Is there any chance you are related to him? If he is still alive, he would be in his mid to late 60s, I would be interested in getting in touch with him." If anyone knows either Joe Harjo or Billy Harjo or their whereabouts please email me at mekkopoet@earthlink.net and I'll pass the information along. We're now in the heat of election fever. I understand that everyone is running for office or the council this election year. Keep a few basic things into consideration when voting: how does the candidate treat their parents? How do they treat their husbands, wives or significant other(s)? Are they familiar with the Mvskoke culture? Can they listen and are they open to more than one point of view? Do their words and actions have integrity? Are they in it to take care of the people or is something else driving the need to run for office? Are they judgmental or are they compassionate? Do they have a string of debt and excuses behind them, or are they followed by the words of people who remember their kind acts? These positions are about taking care of our people. The story of our people will be carried forth by those we elect. Are we making a story of justice, honesty, with a vision of caring for all within the tribe? Each of our lives is meant to inspire each other, no matter what we do, no matter if we are a stay-at-home mother, a mechanic, a teacher, a student, in the military or an engineer working in California. If I remember the story correctly, in old times we had no need for jails, for bureaucratic systems or any institution that perpetuated judgment or bigotry. We had everything we needed. We took care of each other. What a story.

Alice Mary Robertson

Alice Mary Robertson was born at Tullahassee Mission in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on January 2, 1854. Her parents, William Schenck Robertson and Ann Eliza Worchester were missionaries who spent much time translating many works including the Bible into the Muscogee language. Alice was taught in the home from an early age, and went on to attend Elmira College in Elmira, New York. After college, in 1873 she became the first woman clerk to work in the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She left the B. I. A. in 1879 and returned to Indian Territory and taught school at Tullahassee, and later at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. In 1882, after having taught at Carlisle she returned to Indian Country and started the Nuyaka Mission. She also taught at Okmulgee, OK, and was in charge of the Minerva Home, a Presbyterian Boarding School for young Native American girls, which would develop into Henry Kendall College, and eventually become the University of Tulsa. In 1900 she was appointed the first government supervisor of Creek Indian Schools and held that position until 1905. She then became the first female postmaster of the first class postoffice in Muskogee, OK. She also donated much of her own personal time to helping veterans, and it was her canteen service to troops during WWI that would later lead to the formation of the Muskogee Chapter of the American Red Cross. In 1921 she became the second woman to serve in Congress, joining the 67th Congress by defeating the incumbent William Hastings while spending only \$3,000 on campaigning. Her campaign platform was "First, I am a Christian; second, I am an American, and third, I am a Republican and a standpatter, too." She served in Congress from March 4, 1921 until March 3, 1923. Miss Robertson was the first woman elected to Congress after the 19th Amendment to the constitution passed in 1920, the amendment that guaranteed women



Alice Mary

the right to vote. She also became the first woman to preside over a gathering of the House of Representatives on June 20, 1921. However, being such, she was not what you would have expected such a candidate to be, she opposed various feminist groups such as the National Women's Party and the League of Women's Voters and voted against bills that would fund maternity leave and child care on grounds that they were an intrusion on personal rights. Because of these she gained the support of the Daughters of the American Revolution of which she was a member. It is believed that two controversial bills would cost her the 1923 election, the previously mentioned bill supporting the maternity funding and another bill that would have given the WWI veterans a bonus in honor of their service to their country. This latter bill caused veterans to flood her office with letters complaining that she did not understand their plight, despite her previous service to them. After serving her time in Congress President Warren G. Harding appointed Robertson as a welfare worker at Veterans Hospital Number 90 in Muskogee in May of 1923. She would work there until she eventually retired to run a dairy farm. She passed from this life in Muskogee and was buried in the Greenhill Cemetery. She passed her personal library and her family papers to the University of Tulsa and they became part of the collection of the McFarlin Library. The papers include Muscogee translations by her parents and her grandfather, Samuel Austin Worchester (the man who started the Cherokee Phoenix,). Robertson Hall, a dormitory at the University of Science and Arts in Chickasha and the Alice Roberts middle school in Muskogee are named in her honor. She also has a painting in her honor, painted by Mike Wimmer the Miss Alice Robertson which hangs in the Oklahoma State Capital Building and can be viewed from 8:30 until 5:00 Monday through Friday.

The Invasion of the Mvskokvlke

by Patrick E. Moore

Native American History Series continued

The spring of 1539 found the Cuban port city of Havana bustling with activity. Hernando de Soto was preparing a set sail north into unknown lands universally called La Florida. A journey of over 4,000 miles that did not end until 1543. Soto's expedition was the first to travel into the interior of what is now the North American continent. There were almost 600 men involved, including officers, horse soldiers, foot soldiers, blacksmiths, carpenters, cooks, servants and slaves. There were 9 big ocean going ships committed to this adventure. The horse soldiers were to be mounted upon approximately 240 horses, and the foot soldiers supported by many packhorses and mules. Hernando de Soto, himself, traveled with almost 100 personal bodyguards, he had lawyers, stable hands, recording secretaries, messengers and a private treasurer. His entourage included over 40 pure bred Castilian horses and a herd of hogs. He left in Cuba large herds of sheep, goats, cattle and hogs with instructions they were to be moved to La Florida when a permanent landing and town could be established. Hernando de Soto executed his Last Will and Testament on the 18th day of May, 1539 and sailed out of Havana harbor. La Florida was sighted on the horizon May 25th, 1539 and the fleet landed shortly after entering a bay most probably now Tampa Bay, Florida. Prior to making land the smoke of numerous fires was observed popping up in advance as Soto traveled along the coast. Native Americans were on the near shore and they knew Soto was approaching and were alarming all for they had dealt with the Spaniard before.

When Soto finally landed late in the day he found an abandoned village and later discovered the residents had fled these villagers had personally experienced cruelty at the hands of Spaniard Panfilo de Narvaez who had briefly landed on their shore 10 or 11 years before. Narvaez practiced the same methods used by Columbus in 1492 where in order to extract gold from the natives, he cut off their noses, burned them at the stake, chopped off their hands, practiced swordsmanship on living natives and fed them to his dogs. Expedition horses were taken ashore on May 30, 1539, however, several were lost while in slings and strapped in the ship's hold for 12 days. Soto's advance scouting party encountered approximately 10 natives who came out of the underbrush. This first meeting resulted in a confrontation where 2 natives were killed and several horses wounded before the natives vanished into the thick vegetation. Soto's horse soldiers could not follow due to their weak horses, who had lost their land legs while inactive at sea. Soto found an abandoned village 8 to 10 miles up the bay near the beach, consisting of several wood huts and a temple mound topped by a building adorned by spire of a bird with golden eyes. Soto quickly decided this would be his headquarters. The rest of his party finally arrived June 3, 1539. Hernando de Soto claimed the entire North American continent for Spain and himself. It did not bother him that Ponce de Leon and Panfilo de Narvaez had claimed the same lands years before Soto set foot on La Florida. Soto June 3, 1539 claim for Spain was a total of 7,300,000 square miles. Where did he get the authority to claim lands already

owned by millions of indigenous people? The Native American owners of this land in the Southeast numbered at least 1,000,000 strong and had no idea of what was in store for them with this arrival of Europeans. They lived as they had for thousands of years without ever encountering filthy bearded soldiers carrying steel weapons, the plague, smallpox and assorted other foreign diseases for which the native populations had no immunity. The first Natives Soto's men killed were Timucuan Indians who lived all over the upper La Florida Peninsula. The Timucuan Indians became extinct after Soto's contact, for they died by the thousands from European diseases leaving only a few hundred after contact with Soto's soldiers and those few were finally completely exterminated by the British in the 1700's. Soto's journals coupled with modern archaeologist's explorations reveal the Timucuan Indians built mounds, worshiped the sun, revered birds and tattooed geometric designs on their bodies. They were physically larger in stature than the Spanish invader, wore their hair short, possessed broad chests and black eyes, were excellent bowmen and superb runners. Timucuan were organized into regional kingdoms with several towns governed by one ruler. They were not as well organized nor as sophisticated as their neighbors further north in the land of the Mvskokvlke. Soto was after gold and the location of cities where gold could be found. This was to be a repeat of his actions in Central America, so he caused the capture of several Timucuan men and was going to force them to guide him, the Timucuan guided Soto's men into vast swamps where the Timucuan guide would simply disappear.

Soto continued to have a problem gathering intelligence about the local population and could not figure out why the Timucuan did not want to help him. His men were having trouble making the shortest of trips outside camp. When Timucuan Indians were found or stumbled upon, they were the most skilled fighters Soto had encountered, even better than the Incas. Their favorite weapon was the deadly long bow. The Timucuan and the later encountered Mvskokvlke used bows 6 or 7 feet long and as thick as a mans arm, capable of pinpoint accuracy over 200 paces. Arrows, made of reeds, were capable of piercing iron mail. These arrows were very heavy and tough enough to pass through a Spanish shield. Some were pointed with fishbone and others tipped with a diamond shaped stone. The stone tipped arrow generally shattered when striking armor, but the cane arrow split and entered through the links of mail causing considerable damage and at times death to the Spaniard. June 2, 1539 was the date of the first military action by Soto against the Timucuan Indians. Soto sent 50 horse mounted soldiers armed with swords and shields out to capture some local Timucuan. The Spaniards approached a village on the bank of a river and made an attempt to capture some of the inhabitants. The natives began an escape into the river, however, horsemen were able to capture several women. The capture resulted in a vicious counter attack by Timucuan warriors forcing the Spaniards to retreat back to Soto's fortified camp. This first armed encounter resulted in serious injury to many Spanish horsemen and resulted in the first Spaniard combat death in La Florida. The skirmish was an

overwhelming victory for the Timucuan. Then in early June a contingent of 40 horsemen and 80 foot soldiers came into an open area and stumbled upon a party of Timucuan warriors decked out in red body paint, adorned with bird plumes and armed with bows and arrows. The Spaniards immediately attacked to take advantage of the open terrain. Spanish horses very easily began to knock the natives down until one of them stood up and spoke in Spanish "Do not kill me. I am a Christian, like you and my name is Juan Ortiz." Ortiz also requested they not kill his companions for they had saved his life in the past. Ortiz, it seems, had been left ashore when Navaerz La Florida left some years ago and had been living with the Timucuan Indians for since abandoned. Soto was thrilled for this was the best news he had received since arriving in La Florida. He now had an interpreter and guide who spoke Spanish. Critical to further travel north was communication with the indigenous people, Soto's Spanish army also needed support in the form of supplies, bearers and marching directions. A very young boy had been more or less adopted by the Spanish soldiers when they came ashore and as a bonus he could speak Timucuan and many of the Mvskokvlke languages in use to the north. The Spaniard Ortiz could translate Spanish into Timucuan and the young Timucuan boy would then translate into Mvskokvlke. Soto was ready to venture north into the unknown, but, his army had to enter and cross a wilderness over 100 miles wide into the lands of the Mvskokvlke. Next the journey north and quest for gold and silver.

LANGUAGE

Language Preservation Manager

The Msvkoke Language Program over the past month has been busy preparing for the school year. Language students at Dustin and Holdenville public schools have been learning their language fundamentals in preparation for their core lessons. Phillip Harjo and Gracine Hicks have been working with Sylvia Baker to complete the students pretest so that by mid term we will be able to determine the over all success of the units. Our hope is to develop a standardized curriculum that will lead to have the Msvkoke language curriculum excepted by the State Department of Education by the end of this school year.

The office staff, Mary Frye, Millie Colbert, Roberta Powell and Koko Lowe have all been trying to keep two steps ahead of the language teachers in completing the lesson units objectives and gathering the materials needed in the classroom. The Language Committee have been working only side the Language Program staff in finalizing the curriculum for Pre-K through high school.

The Language Committee understands the differences of the dialects throughout the Muscogee Nation but has come to a consen-

sus on a starting point to teach our children. The Muscogee Language Program was developed to serve students of all ages and to provide language classes in school districts. Realizing the differences in dialects in the Muscogee language, the Muscogee Language Program Committee had to determine the dialect to be used for the language instruction for our students. The selection for pronunciation and printed in the Muscogee Language program curriculum does not diminish other dialects or imply a right or wrong way of pronunciation. It does mean, however, the program had to elect one way to teach and say the word to enable consistency in teaching students the language. The Language Committee encourages parents and grandparents to teach their dialect in conjunction with the Language class materials. The most important thing is to keep the Mvskoke Language alive regardless of the dialect.

The successes of our endeavors are already evident in the students. It's not unusual to see the language students walking the halls greeting each other in Creek and offering a handshake with their greeting. Just the other

day, the class took a walking trip and came across a Creek woman and the entire class greeted her in Creek and offered their hand. Some of the students got it correct and some had a little difficulty but they were all understood and praised for their efforts.

If you were to walk in one of the language classes you would be greeted at the classroom door by students speaking in Creek, offering a handshake and offering you a chair. The new motto for the Language Program is "Remember Our Ways". As part of teaching the language, we have remembered to teach our ways. The Language Committee and Language Staff have remembered to incorporate the Muscogee traditions in the teachings of the language. Lessons in good citizenship, manners, and respect of their elders are now part of the curriculum.

We invite you to stop by the Language Program in the Human Development Building and share your ideas on how we could make the Language Program even better.

Virginia Thomas
Acting Manager

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SEPTEMBER PUZZLE:
MYSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM: ASSORTED ANIMALS LOOK FOR MISSING LETTERS AND MATCH THEM IN THE NUMBERS. MILLIE COLBERT HAS CREATED THESE LANGUAGE ITEMS. SO, PEOPLE TO BE AWARE OF HOW MANY ALPHABETS OUR MYSKOKE (CREEK) LANGUAGE HAS.

A	C	E	F	H	I	K	L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	V	W	Y
19	2	17	4	15	6	13	8	10	12	9	11	7	14	5	16	3	18	1

1. I am a small domestic mammal as a catcher of rats, mice and as a pet.

11 9 14 17

2. I am a mammal with short legs, divided hooves, stiff, course hair and a snout used for digging.

14 16 13 15 3

3. I am a common domestic fowl.

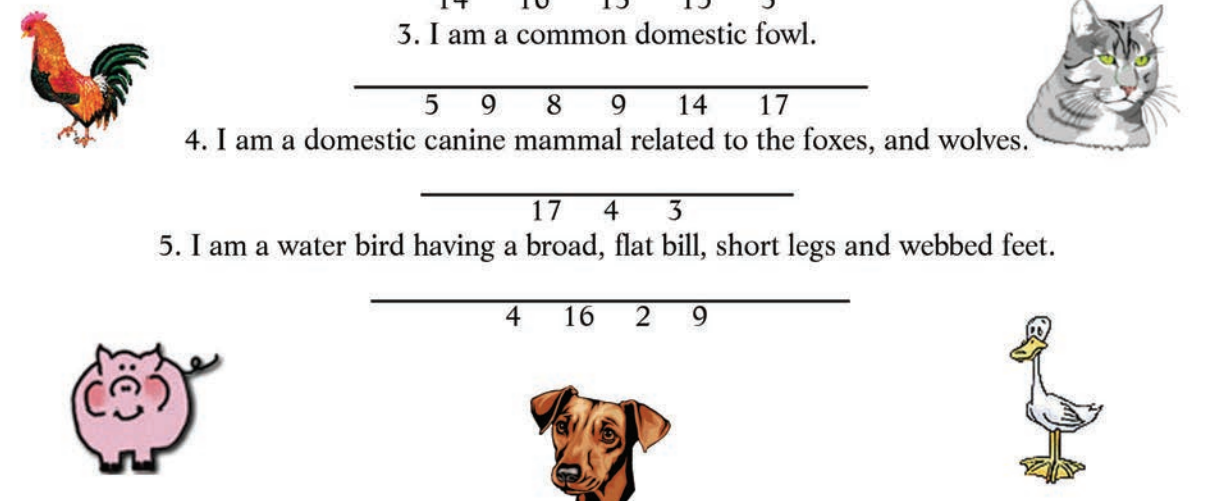
5 9 8 9 14 17

4. I am a domestic canine mammal related to the foxes, and wolves.

17 4 3

5. I am a water bird having a broad, flat bill, short legs and webbed feet.

4 16 2 9



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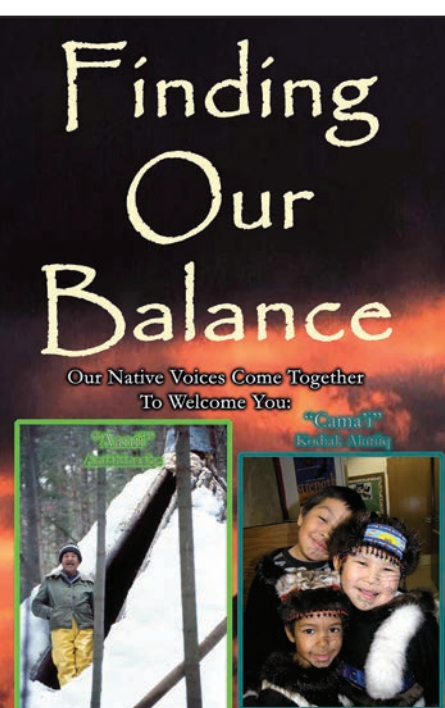


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SMITHSONIAN EXHIBIT AVAILABLE FOR DISPLAY HAS LOCAL PARTICIPATION

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum is now signing up locations to host a traveling exhibit, Finding Our Balance, for display during November (Native American month) and December. Local Participants from Oklahoma were Lewis Johnson from the Seminole Nation Museum in Wewoka, and Theodore Isham, Curator of the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee.


Beginning in February 2006 twelve Native museum professionals from Alaska, Arizona, Nevada, South



Dakota, Ontario Canada, and Oklahoma began a nine-month exhibitions workshop conducted by the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). Working together, the group produced an eight-panel exhibit called Finding Our Balance that can be carried to schools, libraries, offices, businesses, clinics, churches, and to meetings and conferences. The exhibit has been shipped to each of the six communities represented by the workshop participants. Participants were from the Sicangu Heritage Center, Mission SD; Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, Manitoulin Island, Ontario, Canada; the Alutiiq Museum, Kodiak, Alaska; Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Museum, Nixon, Nevada, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, Nevada; and Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center and Museum, Sells, Arizona, and the Oklahoma representatives.

The first challenge for the participants was to agree on an exhibit topic that would be of interest to them and to potential viewers back home. During discussions at the workshop, members of the group discovered that all of their communities are engaged in struggles

to regain facets of their cultural lives that had been lost or damaged during contact with non-natives. The group selected six shared topics to illustrate their community's efforts to preserve their cultures. Members of the group designed a map to show where they all



live, determined the layout and design of the eight panels, wrote text, and illustrated the information with various graphics, relying mostly on photographs from their respective communities.

This training workshop allowed tribal museum professionals, scattered throughout the continent, to work together on a project while learning the technical skills required in designing and fabricating professional museum exhibits. Workshop attendees will be able to go back to their respective communities and put this knowledge to work. One of the greatest benefits in attending the workshop was working with native museum professionals around the country who face similar issues, in addition to learning technical skills and networking with the staff of the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). These tribal museum individuals tend to think their situations are unique but when they got together and compared notes they all have very similar experiences and by sharing with each other, could solve more of the problems that they each face. This workshop has also helped bring about a greater understanding of the national/international native museum community.

The six topics of the panel exhibit under the general title of Finding our Balance are: Belief and Ceremony, Family and Community, Learning and Wisdom, Health and Wellness, Land and Water, and

Human Rights and Repatriation. The group was videotaped as they worked on the exhibit and a DVD of the project is available to show along with the exhibit. This exhibit will be a great complement to any school during the month of November, Native American month, as it gives a snapshot of native life throughout North America.

For more information about seeing the exhibit, contact Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum, at (918) 756-2324.



RELIGION

Cousins in Christ on "Showtime at the Apollo"

We are the Cousins in Christ, from Boynton, Oklahoma. Our group con-

sists of four young ladies, Rhonda, Shonda, Krystal, and Aisha Lang.

The Cousins in Christ are a gospel singing group and have been performing in churches all around Oklahoma and surrounding states since we were very small.

On August 4, we traveled to Houston, TX to audition for the television show "Showtime at the Apollo". This show has showcased such legends as *Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, Billie Holiday, James Brown, Ben V. King, Jackie Wilson, The Isley Brothers, Luther Vandross, Michael Jackson, Fat Joe, Lauryn Hill, Dru*

Hill, Blu Cantrell, and many others.

Three hundred people auditioned, our group was selected to continue on to New York to appear on the show from September 21-23.

Each contestant is responsible for their own expense.

This includes airfare, inter-city travel, food, and hotel accommodations.

It is our sincere wish for the people of Oklahoma to support us financially and spiritually, while we fulfill our dream of a life time.

Thank you and may God truly bless you!

For more information call (918) 472-7318 or (918) 638-9962.



Krystal, Rhonda, Aisha, and Shonda

Rev. Willie and Salinee Sumka Memorial Singing

HENRYETTA — Rev. Willie and Salinee Sumka will have a memorial singing on October 13.

It will be at the Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church (Turn off Jiffy Mart on main highway in Henryetta, go approximately 5-6 miles to Salem Baptist

Church, then turn right go approximately 3 miles).

Dinner will be served at 12:00 p.m. and singing will start at 1:30p.m.

The M.C. will be Joe Grayson.

For more information contact: Joe or Diane Grayson at 696-6207.

Robison Reunion

CROMWELL — The 34th annual reunion of the descendants of Colonel William Robison was held at the Cromwell Indian Community on July 7.

An estimated 55 descendants attended with Amos Robison's line having the most. The reunion was organized by Cleo Robison, Chairman, and Rebecca Linsey, Secretary/Treasurer.

Early arrivals enjoyed coffee and donuts while playing games. A potluck lunch was served at noon.

After lunch there were door prize drawings and awards for special categories. The youngest award went to Dylan Robison, Holdenville, six weeks old. The oldest award went to Cleo Robison,

Dustin, 83 years old.

Two awards were given for the farthest distance traveled to Jonathan Brown from Wynnewood, Oklahoma and Paul Lane from Owasso, Oklahoma.

Everyone brings an item to donate for the auction. The bidding battles were fun and raised a lot of money.

Money raised by the auction will be used to fund next year's event. The reunion is held the first Saturday of July each year.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for next year, call Rebecca Lindsey at (918) 906-0782 or Craig Robinson at (405) 379-7119.

Indian Falls Creek Update

By: Victor Cope

DAVIS, OK— God showed up and did a mighty work among our Indian congregations.

Our young preachers did an excellent job preaching the Word of God.

Every service people flocked to make decisions for God.

The Youth and Young Adults were the focal points of this years camp.

These groups made many decisions and praised God in their own special way.

I want to thank everyone that had a part in Indian Falls Creek because it was a huge success.

The Final Numbers (PRAISE GOD): Salvation - 145, Missions - 12, Ministry - 13, Rededication - 81, Prayer - 39, Special Needs - 49, Assurance of Salvation - 17, and Total Attendance - 2643.

Alisa "Gooley" Pratt Blood and Bone Marrow Drive: The drive had 83 volunteers to donate blood, 45 were able complete the donation and 38 registered for the Bone Marrow Registry. Kathleen Cockrum, R.N. IFC Health Director Oklahoma City Urban Clinic.

Photo Gallery from Camp: If you want to view pictures taken by Cheryl please email me and I will forward the file to you. Victor Cope: ndnrev@aol.com.

IFC Shirts: Our shirt design was a hot item at camp. We are still taking orders.

To view the design and order please email me and I will send you the file with order instructions.

We sold almost 400 shirts this year.

Special Service Decisions: IFC set a record for number of decisions that were made concerning ministry and missions (25). We want to have a special weekend of training for those that came forward surrendering to special service.

We have the decisions for Friday nights service but we need the names and addresses of those for all other services.

Please email me their name, address, phone number and church ASAP. Thanks!

Education Workshop: Oklahoma Baptist University came and put on a Financial Aid Workshop at camp.

Those that attended appreciated a new service provided by Indian Falls Creek. Bacone College and the Daughters of the American Revolution were also in attendance.

OBU also had a drawing for a new IPOD and Big Screen TV / Projector.

The IPOD was won by Anthony Marshall and Green Leaf Baptist Church will be able to choose the Big Screen TV or Projector. OBU is already making preparation for next year.

First Annual Watermelon Eating Contest: The new feature of camp was won by Michael Cooper of Saint York Baptist Church, Pastured by Simmon Harjo.

He has vowed to become the new (Kobayashi) of watermelon eating. WAY TO GO MICHAEL!!!

New Royalty : Many talented young people vied for the honor of representing Indian Falls Creek. Miss Annie Hooper is the new Miss

Indian Falls Creek.

She is from Indian Nations Baptist Church and the daughter of Tim and Sheila Hooper. Mr. Stephen G. Wall from Ardmore Indian Baptist is Mr. Indian Falls Creek.

His parent is Stephen G. Wall. Miss Catie Newport will be the Jr. Miss Indian Falls Creek.

She is from Faith Indian Baptist Church in Ada, OK.

Her parents are DD and Steve Jacob.

Contact them for speaking engagements at: Stephen G. Wall: 1-580-319-4046, Catie Newport: 1-580-399-8767, or Annie Hooper: 1-405-374-9117.

Counseling: Darryle Rattler thanks everyone that helped to counsel at camp.

He wants all who assisted him to contact him by email so he can start preparation for next year.

His email is: blackfeetndn@sbcglobal.net.

Group Photo: Tom Flora took a group picture of our entire camp in front of the new Tabernacle.

To purchase please email Victor for details.

Indian Falls Creek 2008: July 28 - August 1 mark your calendars and make preparations to attend now. I have already received a reservation for the camp motel.

Final Word: Indian Falls Creek 2007 was not your fathers Falls Creek.

A new Tabernacle which features air conditioning, great sound, comfortable seats and 2 large screens.

The new Tabernacle is just the

beginning of the renovations that will take place at the conference center.

The focal point: Youth and Young Adults.

I believe that we saw more decisions among these groups.

I stood in the receiving line during invitation and tears filled my eyes.

I saw individuals young and old responding to Gods word.

I saw whole youth groups coming down to pray.

One group of young men gathered around their pastor praying for him and pledging their support.

The preachers may have been young, the music may have been a little to loud and young people responding in ways that maybe different.

Methods may change but the message remains the same GOD LOVES US AND JESUS SAVES!

Miscellaneous: Pray for our children, youth and college students as they go back to school.

On a personal note pray for my 2 daughters as they go back to school.

Chelsea will be at Seminole State and Madison will be a freshman at Oklahoma State.

Information is from Indian Falls Creek as a service to our people.

Please pass this information on to your email contacts, Myspace accounts or print off for a local church that does not have Internet access.

Pray that God would lead us to do the impossible.

TRADITIONAL TOBACCO
Honoring Yourself by Respecting Your Past

**INDIAN HEALTH CARE
RESOURCE CENTER OF TULSA**

Sat., Sept. 15, 2007 - 1pm to 4pm
Central Community Center, 1028 E. Sixth St.
Free and Open to the Public

Drum group demonstration - Free t-shirts - Giveaways and food to all attendees
Christi Schultz, M.S., Tobacco Program Coordinator, Traditional Ties Tobacco Cessation Program
(918) 588-1900, extension 2244 - www.ihrc.org

Oklahoma State Indian Leadership Conference

HOLDENVILLE — On October 4, 5, & 6 the The Many Springs Baptist Church will be hosting the Oklahoma State Indian Leadership Conference.

The theme will be "Christ Our Example" 1 PETER 2:21.

The Conference Director is Russell Feeling.

The Assistant Director is Leon Postoak.

The Secretary is Wonda Postoak.

The Business Manager is John Hummingbird.

The Treasurer is Linda Hummingbird.

The music will be done by Larry & Joann Hawkins of Blue Baptist Church in Connerville, OK.

The guest speakers and their topics will be: Bro Jack Comer with Bible Study 1 Peter 2:18-25.

Bro. Brad Hawkins with Pastor, As An Administrator.

Men's Ministry with Past/Present Leadership.

Paula Hawkins with Fruits of the Spirit.

Bro. Paul Purifoy with Worship Leader - Friday.

Bro. Bob Mayfield with Power-up Sunday School.

And Bro. Slim Crabtree with Prison Ministry.

For more information contact the church at (405)-232-8443.

LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Hailey Brooke Cooley

MORRIS — Hailey Brooke Cooley was born at St.Francis Hos-
pital on June 28th at 5:49p.m.
She weighed 10 lbs. and 9 oz. and was 20 in. in length.
Parents are Amanda Durden and Jermaine Cooley.
She is of the Wind Clan.
Maternal grandparents are Christine Durden and the late Da-
vid Durden.
Her great grandmother is Helen Tiger.
Paternal grandparents are the late Eugene and Denise Cooley.



Makayla Irene Shirley

OWASSO — Makayla Irene Shirley was born at St. John Owas-
so Hospital on June 26th.
She weighed 8lbs. and was 20 1/2 in. in length.
Parents are Robert and Melinda Shirley of Owasso.
Maternal grandparents are Artman and the late Irene Tiger of
Owasso.
Maternal great-grandparents are the late Rev. C.D. and Pauline
Marie Harjo of Okemah, and the late Jimmie and Rachel Gutierrez
of Bristow.
Paternal grandparents are Sharon and the late Paul E. Shirley
of Sperry.
Paternal great-grandparents are Paul and Mary Ellen Shirley of
Tulsa, and Bob and Dorothy Bales of Sperry.



Dustin Hoy Storm

CHECOTAH — Dustin Hoy Storm was born on August 9th.
Parents are Dustin and Julie Storm of Checotah.
Materna grandparents are Tommy and Tina LeMasters of Eu-
faula.
Paternal grandparents Hoy and Mary Storm of Checotah.
Maternal great-grandparents are Venson and Forena Goins of
Talihina.
Paternal great-grandparents are Nix and LouAnn Storm of
Checotah.



BIRTHDAYS

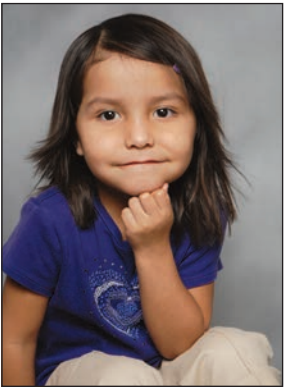
Brandon James Fletcher

WAGNOR — Brandon James Fletcher celebrated his 16th
birthday on July 27th with the theme as John Deere Tractors.
His cake was decorated in John Deere Tractors, which he en-
joys very much.
In attendance was a host of family and friends.
He is the son of Vonda Kay Fletcher Ellis and step-father Ver-
non Lee York of Hulbert.
He is the grandson of Principal Chief A.D.Ellis and Gail Ellis.
He is the grandson of Deloris Wynona Fletcher and the late
James Carl Fletcher of Wagoner.
He is of the Turtle Clan and belongs to the Locvpoka Tribal
Town.



Abigail Rose Alvarez

GLENPOOL- Abigail Rose Alvarez celebrated her 4th birth-
day on September 3rd with the theme as Dora the Explore.
In attendance was a host of family and friends.
She is the daughter of Alex Alvarez of Glenpool.
She is the granddaughter of Alexis Bible-Crosley of Bristow,
Carl Crosley of Tulsa and Edward Alvarez of Dallas, TX.
She is the great-granddaughter of Billie Sulphur-Scott and the
late John Ellis Scott of Okemah.
She is of the Beaver Clan and belongs to New Tulsa Ceremo-
nial Ground.



MUSCOGEE PEOPLE

Joshua Castleman

OKMULGEE — My name is Joshua Cas-
tleman and I have been hired by the Muscogee
(Creek) Nation to develop an Integrated Re-
source Management Plan. This plan will help
assesses what natural and cultural resources that are
available to the Creek Nation. This plan will serve
as a guideline for how to manage and develop
these resources. The guidelines for
forming the plan encourage en-
rolled Creek citizens to voice their
input on how they would like to
see these lands used.
The Muscogee (Creek) Na-
tion recently started undergoing
preparations for developing an
Integrated Resource Management
Plan (IRMP). Funding for this
one-year grant comes from the
Bureau of Indian Affairs. We (the
Muscogee people) were fortunate
enough to receive the larger of the two different
grant amounts. This grant will go a long way in
helping the tribe to assess and organize our avail-
able natural resources. Currently there is not a
set standard on how to develop or maintain the
resources on Creek Tribal lands. The main prob-
lem here is that we the Creek Nation do not know
exactly what we have or how much of it (cultural
and natural resources) we may or may not have.
This Integrated Resource Management Plan



Joshua Castleman

will help to provide an inventory of what is avail-
able and what steps can be taken to preserve and
manage our cultural and natural resources. The
goal of this plan is not just to assess what we re-
sources we have and how they can be protected,
but how they can be protected and still foster
economic growth. We want to continue to ex-
pand our tribal business to that we
can further help our people; how-
ever, we want to make sure that we
protect our resources while we do
this.
What the (Creek) Nation re-
ally needs to help fix this manage-
ment problem is a dedicated GIS
department. While this grant does
not provide the money to create
such a department, it does however
provide us (the Muscogee people)
with a stepping-stone, which will
get us one-step closer toward solving this prob-
lem. What is nice about this project is that it en-
courages enrolled Creek citizens to voice their
opinion about the matter. I encourage all Creek
citizens to let me know via e-mail at jcastleman@
muscogeenation-nsn.gov or phone at (918) 732 -
7706; what you would like to see done with lands
owned by the Creek Nation, especially those in
your community. I look forward to hearing all of
your responses.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Head Start staff receives degrees in Early Childhood classes

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Head Start has collaborated with the Adult Education De-
partment at Bacone College in Muscogee to bring Early Childhood classes to the Okmulgee Center for
the Head Start staff and the surrounding area students. These classes have given the opportunity for
the staff to receive their B.A. degree that is required for teachers and Specialists at a more convenient
place and time. The teachers as well as the Specialists will have a higher professional skill level to help
children be more prepared to enter kindergarten.

Dannetta Williams - Tate

Dannetta Williams - Tate graduated receiving her Bachlors degree in Early Childhood, honored
Cum Laude and was awarded “Who’s Who Among Students in American UNiversity & Colleges,”
from Bacone College May 5.
She is the proud wife of Richard Tate Sr., mother to Lawana, Rishell, Temarkeya, Richard Jr., and
Mark.
She is the granny to LaVonte, Jazzreal, KeyLeon, Jason Jr., Josh Jr., and KeyIrish, and the auntie
mama to TreViante.
She is the daughter of James and Lelia Fullbright, the late Marcus G. Williams, the daughter-in-
law of Mrs. Viola Tate and the oldest of nine children.
She is a member of the First Baptist Church Couth, in Beggs and employed with the Muscogee
Creek Nation Head Start as the Health/Mental Health Specialist.

Barbara O’Neal

Barbara O’Neal graduated from Bacone College with a degree in Early Childhood with honors
of Cum Laude and “Who’s Who Among Students in American University & Colleges”.
She is a enrolled member of the Creek Tribe and is of the Wind Clan. Her parents are Annie Mae
O’Field and the late Richard O’Field of Twin Hills.
She resides in the Twin Hills/Concharty area with her husband Shawn and two children Shawna
and Garrett.
She also has two other children Sherri Brown and Richard Condit and five grandchildren.
She has been employed with the Creek Nation Head Start for twenty years and teaches Child
Development classes through the Continuing Education Center from the University of Oklahoma.

Amanda Durrett

Amanda Durrett graduated from Connors State College with an Associate in Early Childhood
Development Education.
She lives in Council Hill with her grandmother.
She has been employed at Creek Nation Head Start for seven years.
She is now working on her B.A. Degree at Bacone College.

Mitchell B. Beaver

Mitchell B. Beaver graduated from Bacone College with a B.A. in Early Childhood.
He currently works for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start in Eufaula.
He is the son of Raymond and Hattie Beaver of Eufaula.
He has one daughter, Kelli Denise Beaver, a 2007 graduate of Eufaula High School.

Betty J. Smith

Betty J. Smith is enrolled with the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe.
She is the daughter of the late Joe and Jeannetta Smith.
She is of the Raccoon Clan and is a member of the Prairie Springs Indian Church in Okemah.
She has two sons and three grandchildren.
She has worked for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start for nine years as the Disability/Nu-
trition Specialist.
She also does training for the CECPD (Center for Early Childhood Professional Development).
She graduated recently with a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood from Bacone College.

Michel Porter

Michel Porter has been married for almost eight years.
She lives with her husband and two children.
She is an enrolled member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoman.
She have worked with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program as lead teacher for six
years.
Her first year was completed at the Eufaula center.
At the end of the school year, she transferred to the Okmulgee center.
She is currently the Center Supervisor for the Okmulgee center.
Upon employment, she had a BSed from Northeastern State University.
After a few years with the Head Start program, she returned to school to obtain her Bachelor’s of
Art in Early Childhood.
In May 2007, along with five other Head Start employees, she graduated from Bacone College.

Eufaula 6th Annual Woman’s Health Summit

By Jeannie Arnold, MS, FNP-C, Women’s Clinic Supervisor at Eufaula Indian Health Center

EUFULA — The Eufaula Indian Health
Center celebrated their 6th Annual Woman’s
Health Summit on Wednesday, Aug. 1. This
year’s event was a big success with a total of 207
women in attendance. Our T-shirt design was
provided by Dana Tiger with the theme titled
Generations of Strength. We had a full agenda
for the day with two speakers, a luncheon, and
exhibit booths for the ladies to browse.
Tana Bardin, victim advocate with the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children & Family
services Administration, presented important
information regarding domestic violence. She
answered many questions from women that
probably would not have been addressed if not
for Tana. Dr. Dannette McIntosh, training/edu-
cation specialist with Planned Parenthood of Ar-
kansas and Eastern Oklahoma, spoke on sexually
transmitted infections and the human papilloma

virus. She provided sensitive information that’s
important for women of all ages. They were
both excellent speakers who were beneficial to
our women in the community.
I would like to give a special thank you to
the Eufaula Indian Community and the Checo-
tah Indian Community for their generous do-
nations of money. We would not have been able
to purchase the nice T-shirts of Ribbons of Life
if not for their help. We also appreciated all the
area health care vendors for setting up booths
and providing handouts and goodies for the
women there.
The Women’s Clinic at EIHC plans to hold
this event again next year around the same time
in August of 2008. We are seeing an increase in
numbers each year and now have a large enough
facility to utilize with the Eufaula Indian Com-
munity Center.

Yuchi Student finishes at Dartmouth

“I no longer viewed challenges as intimidating or discouraging, but as an opportunity to create change and confront prejudice and intolerance. Through adversity and despite setbacks, I graduated from Dartmouth with much more than a diploma. I had advanced and cultivated my goals while remaining true to myself and to my people.”

It’s unfortunate we sometimes hear about Native American kids failing academically at the High School and College level. A levy of reasons such as family or being far from home are sometimes the cases for dropping out and returning home.

For whatever reason, the bottom line is that they quit and an opportunity at a better life may just have been taken away.

What can make the story even worse is when a scholarship is available, an opportunity for an Indian student to have his tuition and other expenses covered. Colleges offer these and often it is an athletic scholarship involved. A college education is something that a lot of people strive for, they will scratch and save until they have enough money to go and get an education.

If their is any positive side to such a tragic story is that the young student had a desire to want to do to better, they made the choice to try something new, something out of their element. They were trying to do something, they were trying to make a different in their life.

Four years ago, as Katie Grounds arrived in Hanover, New Hampshire, the weather conditions at that time did not exactly welcome the Indian girl from Oklahoma.

It was already night and the continuing rhythm of the rain made the evening seem even more gloomy.

Grounds was definitely out of her comfort zone as she decided to enter Dartmouth College as a freshman. The Navajo, Seminole, and Yuchi girl had decided to attend the prestigious Ivy League School back east, even though she knew it would be thousands of miles away from her family and friends in little Pawnee, Oklahoma.

The academic side wasn’t anything that Grounds would be afraid of.

Grounds had certainly deserved to attend any University she selected, she was a 2002 graduate of Pawnee High School where she received the highest academic honors.

“I had arrived at Dartmouth alone, ill-equipped, and with no direction,” says Grounds. “I had the seemingly overwhelming task of finding my dorm room at night, in the rain, wearing unsuitable clothing, and with four bags that I could not carry by myself. I eventually made it to my room that night, with some muscle, a friendly taxi cab driver, and a campus map. Although I was alone, exhausted, and soaking wet I had accomplished my objective. Indeed this first experience would come to symbolize my journey at Dartmouth over the next four years.”

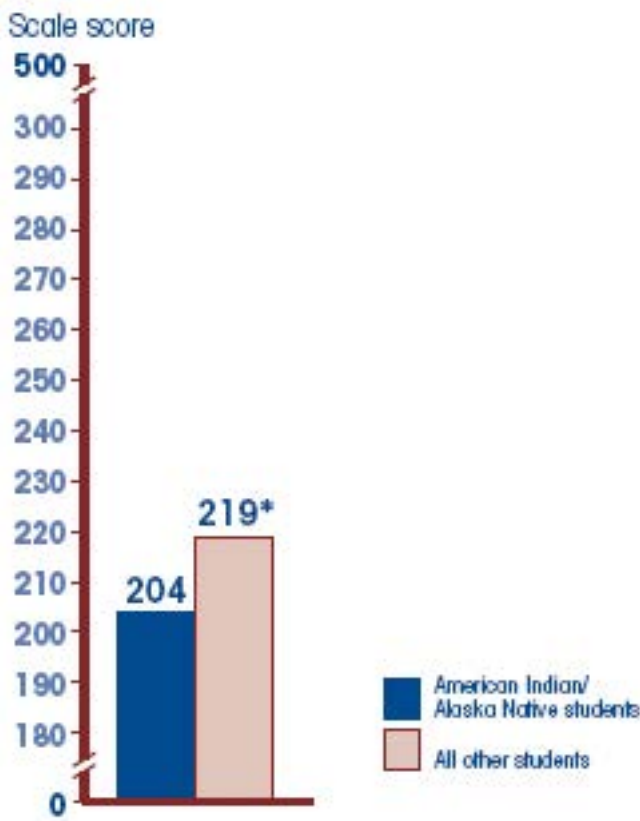
Grounds would decide to major in Native American studies, but it seemed, especially for her first year at the prestigious eastern school that she was the focus of studies from different people in her new surroundings. “My racial and cultural background, while not tremendously unique in Oklahoma, was a point of curiosity for other students, which usually spurred a bevy of questions,” says Grounds, “at times, this interest served to ostracize me from other students as I was made to feel different and separate from other students. “

Further strain was put on Grounds as she worked a minimum of fifteen hours a week to save money for things such as books and other school supplies. Even though she realized a new environment would take a lot of adjusting and the full support from her parents to take on new challenges, Grounds began to



Dartmouth graduate Katie Grounds with brother Steve Grounds after the 2007 Dartmouth Spring Commencement ceremonies, Grounds is just one of many Native American students that are succeeding in the classroom and choosing to relocate from home and friendly surrounding to embark on new territory academically.

Figure 2-1. Average reading scale scores, by student group, grade 4: 2005



* Results for American Indian/Alaska Native students were significantly different from those of all other students.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2005 National Indian Education Study.

The Above chart is just one of many from the U.S. Department of Education documenting how Native American students are comparing nationwide to non-Indian students in various academic endeavors, others are also available at the U.S. Department of Education web-site, www.ed.gov

need to survive is just as important in the classroom. Perhaps it’s finding what you feel comfortable with, finding Native American connections in a non-native world, it certainly worked for Grounds, especially after a rough first year. Despite economics, family crisis, and a different world, Katie Grounds became committed to succeeding at Dartmouth. “For the next three years I found internships, jobs, and activities that united my Native community and culture with my academics,” says Grounds. “I became a Native American Studies major and became involved in the Native American community. I was selected as the Undergraduate Advisor of the Native American House and became a leader in my community and facilitated the

education of other Native American students.”

Last May, she received a degree in Native American studies from the University of Dartmouth, “at home I had an entire community and culture that supported and encouraged me to succeed,” says Grounds, “during this time I recognized what was truly important to me. I had resolved to make my studies relevant to my people so that I could eventually return to my community and give back what was given to me.”

After working a year at Haskell Indian Nations University, Grounds will attend Law School in the fall, and she is no longer apprehensive about venturing out to new worlds as she has applied to several schools

around the nation, even with an offer from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law that would virtually pay for all her education, and it all started five years ago on a 1,500 mile trip from Pawnee to New Hampshire. “I was stronger and smarter than I imagined since arriving at Dartmouth alone, in the rain, and with a burden that was initially overwhelming. I no longer viewed challenges as intimidating or discouraging, but as an opportunity to create change and confront prejudice and intolerance. Through adversity and despite setbacks, I graduated from Dartmouth with much more than a diploma; I had advanced and cultivated my goals while remaining true to myself and my people.”

OBITUARIES

CARL MAC “BUTCH” DYER

BRISTOW — Carl Mac “Butch” Dyer born on January 7, 1941 to Emmitt F. Dyer and Bessie L. Dyer of Paden, OK died Aug 13, at the age 66 years.

Graveside Services were held at 10:00 AM on Thursday August 16, at the Magnolia Cemetery in Bristow, with Bill Manning officiating.

He attended Paden High School where he graduated in 1959.

He spent most of his early life working in the oil field.

Later he turned his livelihood to his true passion of training horses.

He trained and raced Thoroughbred horses at race tracks across the nation where he was recognized as leading trainer in Tulsa.

He was a caring unselfish man who never met a stranger.

He was always willing to help someone in need.

He is survived by his wife Debbie Dyer of the home; her son David Haas and his wife Jean of New Mexico. Oldest son Russell Dyer and his wife Kelli of Hominy, OK. Son Greg Dyer and his wife Larina of Bristow, OK. Four grandchildren, 2 step grandchildren, nd 1 great grandchild. One sister Betty Munzy of Ft Worth, TX. He was preceded in death by his parents and 1 brother Fred Dyer of Paden, OK.

Pallbearers were Doyle Matthews, Ronny Matthews, Freeman Holmes,

Joby Caster, Mike Jones, Johnny Spencer, Richard Stromme, Blake Dyer.

Honorary Pallbearers were David Haas and Terry Dyer.

Arrangements are under the direction of Schumacher Funeral Home in Bristow, OK.

He was a blessing to know; his kind gentleness, big smile and caring spirit carried him through life, giving everyone a good feeling just to have know him.

He will always be missed.

He gave a valiant fight with his cancer.

He faced it like he did everything else--with solid determination and true grit and without complaint.

He was born Jan. 16, 1922, in Okmulgee County in the Wilson community.



Hughes Burgess

He graduated from Wilson High School at age 16.

He was baptized at a very early age in a river by a pastor in the Little Cussetah Church in the Wilson area (he liked telling that story).

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

He was also a 32nd degree Mason, having received his 50-year pin two years ago.

He was in the steel business of some form all of his working life, from being a welder in the beginning and being in charge of entire shops to contracting out as an inspector.

He started his career with Chicago Bridge, going to Sapulpa Tank, Kentube Co., Latoka in Drumright and working for ECO, Inc. early during his retirement.

If there was anything in life that gave him as much happiness as his family, golf was it.

He loved the camaraderie, the adventure and -- oh, yes -- the game.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ellis Burgess and Lucille Sanders Burgess and son Rick Burgess.

He is survived by his wife Artie of 66 years; daughter Beverly Hughes; grandson Daniel W. Hughes, all of Sapulpa; and sister Shirley Phillips of Hodgen, OK.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, at the Smith Funeral Home with Rev. Daryl Owen officiating.

A family-friend visitation was held at the Funeral Home from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15.

A small grave side service was held at 9 a.m. Friday, Aug. 17, at Salt Creek Cemetery in the Wilson community, five miles north of Henryetta.

Funeral services were under the direction of Smith Funeral Home in Sapulpa.

KATHERYN S. ORMSBY

Katheryn S. Ormsby, a resident of Morris, died Sunday, August 26, 2007 at her home.

She was 87 years of age.

She was born April 27, 1920 in Oxford, Kansas to Edward P. and Myrtle (Dean) Stout.

She married Jay H. Ormsby on December 25, 1943 in Chilicothe, MO and owned and operated Oklahoma Brake Service until retiring in 1981.

Survivors include her daughter, Deana Kay Ostroske of the home and a granddaughter, Rachel White of Morris.

Services were held 11:00 A.M. Tuesday, August 28, at the Ft. Gibson National Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Online condolences may be sent at www.mcclendon-winters.com

HUGHES BURGESS

WILSON — On Aug. 12, Hughes Burgess, a good man, left our world to enter into God's world.

She was born in Okmulgee on February 20, 1937 to Harber and Bettie (McHenry) Johnson.

She graduated from Ft. Sill Indian School, attended Bacone College and graduated from Cameron University with a B.S. in education.

She taught Adult Education for the



Patsy Ruth Whanee

Creek Nation and later worked at OSU-Okmulgee where she retired.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a son Robin, a brother Cy Johnson and a sister Carol Nideo.

Survivors include three daughters; Ruby and husband Phillip Booker of Morris, Sheri Wahnee of Morris, Rebecca Wahnee of Morris, two sons; Tommy and wife Alicia Wahnee of Liberty-Morris, OK, Steve and wife Lisa Wahnee of Morris, three brothers; Hugh Ed Johnson of Norman, OK, Keeper Johnson of Morris, Bo Johnson of Okmulgee, five sisters; Dorothy Ticeahkie of Lawton, OK, De Sloan of Okmulgee, Betty Neal of Lawton, OK, Charlene Nevaqueyah of Lawton, OK, Darlene Robinson of Oakland CA, 10 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Wake Services were held on Wednesday, 7 pm at Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

Funeral Services were on Thursday, August 2, 2007 at 10 AM at Belvin Baptist Church with Rev. Jim Kerr officiating.

Burial was in the Morris Cemetery. Visitation will be on Wednesday 10-3 PM at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home in Okmulgee.

Pallbearers were Keeper Johnson Jr., Rojer (Bear) Johnson, Tommy Johnson, Jimmy Johnson, Rojer Johnson and Michael Sloan.

Honorary Pallbearers were J.B. Bennett, Dallas Johnson, and the 1955 Ft. Sill Indian School Graduating Class.

Condolences can be made at mcclendon-winters.com.

SALINA ANN DAVIS

OKMULGEE — Salina Ann Davis 81, a resident of Okmulgee, died on Thursday, August 23, 2007.

She was born in Okmulgee, OK

on November 20, 1925 to Joseph and Samantha (Summers) Stake.

She was preceded in death by her husband Floyd Davis in 1989 and two sons; Floyd Davis Jr. and David Joe Davis, two daughters; Carol Casey and Anna Mae Davis,

Survivors include ten children; Cheryl Ann Davis of the home, Ray Lee Davis of Arkansas, Mary Jane and husband Hughie Matthews of Muskogee, Tommy Gene and wife Lori Davis of Sapulpa, Angela Kay Davis of the home, Roy Lee and wife Trudy Davis of Slick, OK, Theresa Jo Davis of Tulsa and Galela Gale and husband David Koehler of Statford, OK

Funeral Services were held on Monday, August 27, at 10 a.m. at the McClendon-Winters Chapel. Rev. Nathan Capps will officiate.

Burial was in the Big Cussetah cemetery under the direction of the McClenodn-Winters Funeral Home.

SANDRA LEE HARVEY

SAPULPA — Sandra Lee Harvey 37, a resident of Sapulpa, died in Sapulpa on Sunday, August 25.

She was born in Okmulgee on June 24, 1970 to Viola (Smith) Tolbert and Norman Harvey.

She graduated from Okmulgee High School. She was employed at the Sapulpa Family Diner in Sapulpa.

She was preceded in death by her stepfather Ellis James Tolbert Jr.

Survivors include her daughter Emily Jade Snow and son Zechary Thomas Snow and their father Zechary Snow all of the home, her mother Viola Tolbert of Okmulgee, a sister Shelly and husband Cody Spears of Okmulgee, grandmother Evelyn Smith of Okmulgee, and her father Norman Harvey, grandmother Sue Harvey of Sand Springs and many other family and friends.

Funeral services were on Wednesday, August 29, 2007 at the Deliverance Tabernacle at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor John Proctor officiating.

Burial was in the Morris Cemetery.

VICTOR RAY MORGAN

OKMULGEE — Victor Ray Morgan, 33, a resident of Okmulgee, died Sunday, August 19, in Okmulgee.

He was born Tuesday, October 9, 1973 in Claremore, OK and was raised by his mother, Dinah Morgan Mitchell and step-dad, Dennis W. Mitchell

and maternal grandmother, Pauline Morgan.

He was preceded in death by his uncle Bunny Morgan, grandpa Dan Morgan, Sr. and aunt Doll Morgan Baldrige.

Survivors include his three daughters, twelve year old, Jenetra Morgan and her mother, Jenny; three year old, Raelia Morgan and one year old, Vicela Morgan and their mother, Angela.

He also has an unborn child due February 2008. Other survivors include, his mother, Dinah Morgan Mitchell; father, Sammy VanWouderberg; step-dad, Dennis W. Mitchell, Sr.; grandmother, Pauline Morgan; two brothers, Dennis Mitchell, Jr. and Kevin Mitchell; one sister, Paula Mitchell; four nephews; two nieces and one on the way; two uncles, Kenneth and Emanuel Morgan; two aunts, Babsy and Pat Morgan; numerous cousins and friends.

Wake Services will be held at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 22, 2007 at the Montesuma Indian Baptist Church in Haydonville.

Funeral Services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 23, at the Montesuma Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Marvin Lowe officiating.

Burial followed the service at the Old Place in Nuyaka – The Morgan Family Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Pallbearers were Jr. Mitchell, Yardi Hoggshooter, Kevin Mitchell, J.D., Louis Morgan, Jesse Felix, Solomon Morgan and Richard McKay.

Honorary Pallbearers were Kenneth and Emanuel Morgan.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenkelley.com

SPECIAL THANKS

From the Family of Jesse Scott “Peanut”

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude for the love, support and prayers provided by all during this difficult time.

It's the thoughtfulness of family and friends that will give us the spiritual strength in the days ahead, as we think of and miss Peanut.

We would like to send a special thank you to the National Council for their support and to the Communications Department for the services they provided. Your extra efforts of kindness are very much appreciated.

Thank you so much,

Betty, Suzanne, Sandra, Travis and Stacy Scott

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Creek Boys Look to Lead Henryetta to the Promised Land

Bear and Whitlow bring their talents to each side of the ball and have Knights fans talking title

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — Fans of Henryetta football will talk all day about favorite son, Troy Aikman. About how #10, his high school number before he changed to the infamous #8, used to wing it all over the field. They'll talk about his Hall-of-Fame career with the Dallas Cowboys and his concussion-fueled proclamation that Super Bowl XXVIII would be played in Henryetta. But it's hard to blame those folks. Since Aikman's departure, the fans in Henryetta haven't had much to talk about when it comes to their hometown Knights. That's all changing now.

Thanks to a 2006 season that saw the Knights reel off a school-record 11 wins and come seconds from advancing to the state semifinals, the Henryetta fans have something to talk about again. "This school has never had 11 wins in a season before, it was a major thing for this community," said head coach Kenny Speer. "Things are looking good here and it's because we're making an effort to build a solid program."

According to Speer, it's easy to build a program when you have young people like Nick Whitlow and Bobby Bear, the leaders of his defensive and offensive units respectively. Whitlow and Bear, who are Creek Indians, played major roles in the team's '06 success and will be counted on to have their team in the right position to make a run at 2A's highest crown. On defense, everything starts with Whitlow. Last year, the 6-0, 220 lb. linebacker led the Henryetta defense and will be counted on to do the same in 2007. With 10 starters returning to that unit. "Nick is the best linebacker in our district, bar none, and might be the best in all of Class 2A," said Speer. "He's physical and intense and he gets us in all the right coverages, so I feel comfortable that he is our leader on the defensive side of the ball. Plus, he's a 4.0 student in the classroom and



Jason Salsman/MNN

Quarterback Bobby Bear, left, and linebacker Nick Whitlow are looking to build on solid '06 campaigns to make a run at Henryetta's first state championship. Whitlow leads 10 returnees on a defense that was one of the best in Class 2A a year ago, and Bear will look to make a name for himself as Henryetta's next great Quarterback.

an all-around good kid." For Whitlow last year's heartbreaking 36-35 quarter final loss to Davis in a back and forth classic, serves as a reminder of the Knights' unfinished business. "Anything less than a championship is going to be disappointing," said Whitlow. "That's how good I feel about this team."

Offensively, the Knights will go as far as the arm of junior quarterback Bobby Bear will take them. Bear, who

was a key component last year as a full-back, brings a dimension to the quarterback position for the Knights that they haven't had. "One of the things that Bobby brings to the table is that he can run with the football," said Speer. "But he's also a good passer and makes his reads, so we're going to be able to move it offensively." With Bear's ability to tuck it and run, the Knights will become that much more potent with an already

dangerous backfield consisting of returnees Colby Blondell and Coy Blake. The road won't necessarily be an easy one for the Knights as they will once again have to contend with a tough 2A-5 district. Their main threat will come from the 2005 state champion and last year's district champs, the Chandler Lions. They will also have to watch for the Prague Red Devils, led by dangerous quarterback Dakota Harris, a player that

coach Speer refers to as a "standout." But the Knights will be looking to take care of their own business, not getting wrapped up in their new-found success. "All we have to do is go out and control the things we can," said Bear. "Practicing and playing hard, making the right decisions and trusting our teammates. If we do those things we'll be alright." And they just might bring something to Henryetta fans that even Troy

Dewar Fall Football Showcases Local Aspiring Athletes

Roughly 80% of the participants are Mvskoke

Press Release
Submitted by Sunny Tiger
Dewar Pee Wee Board Member

DEWAR, OK. – Hidden along Oklahoma State Highway 75 roughly a thirty minute drive south of Tulsa, one can always find a small school fall sport on a Friday night in the town of Dewar, a Creek community with a population of about 950. If you are wondering which sport... FOOTBALL. Athletes playing football at all levels have the craving to do their best and be the best. If you have any doubt on the level of desire that exists in the Dewar youth, go watch a practice. Self-driven football players have the hunger to pummel anything and anyone in their way of success; this is undeniable, even from spectators on the sidelines or in the stands. With sweat dripping down their forehead, feeling the sting of salt in their eyes, an athlete truly determined to work so hard in

such intense heat from the Oklahoma environment, goes fully padded giving no less than their every ounce of determination, and this is only the practice. To those of us who have a desire to support and respect the local athletes

Friday night football in a small town. Dewar is a great place to watch football, especially with football for grades 3rd – 12th. All football fans will love this town and feel right at home with all of the traditional Dewar Dragon school spirit. 2006's initial pee wee football teams were successfully supported by fans and participants, 2007 will be just as exciting. Dewar Pee Wee Football and Cheerleading Association values being instrumental through instilling respect for the game, teamwork, responsibility and accountability. With these character foundation builders, each participant will leave this season knowing not only about the sport of football, but about working together with others for a common goal. Just like the Dewar High Football team, where Dragon Pride is built on solid foundations. **Roughly 80% of the participants in Dewar Pee-Wee are Mvskoke citizens.



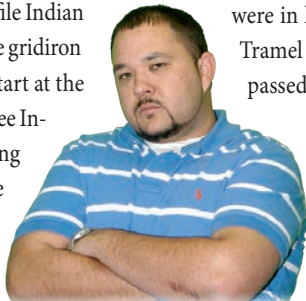
or those of us who just like to socialize, nothing can beat sticking out the weather be it sweltering or freezing, to watch

HOT CORNER

Hensci! Welcome to another stirring, star-spangled edition of the Three Bag. Good to be greeting the month of September, because as all of you know its football time in Oklahoma. Not only do we have some great college teams to root for this year, but high school football is getting better and better and the level of excitement on Friday nights in this state is climbing to the highest point.

One of the things that has really caught my eye in the past few months is the growing amount of high-profile Indian athletes that will be hitting the gridiron this year. We might as well start at the top, and congratulate Cherokee Indian Sam Bradford on winning the quarterback job for the eighth ranked Oklahoma Sooners. Recently Bradford was asked about his lineage by Oklahoma City broadcaster and former Sooner quarterback himself, Dean Blevins. "I'm definitely proud of my Cherokee heritage," said Bradford. "It's something that I hope can make me a role model for the Indian youth out there." Way to go Sam, and you can bet that all of Indian country will be cheering your success. In the high school ranks, the Creek Nation is well-represented with the amount of talented prep players out there. Davenport's Billy Jack Murphy, what a great name, is probably the best back in his class and returns after an All-State junior season that saw him lead the Bulldogs to the state finals. In Henryetta a pair of Creek boys are leading the offense and defense, in the form of Bobby Bear and Nick Whitlow. I talked about their story above, but also look for Bear's twin brother Robby to do big things as well. At Tahlequah Sequoyah, the Indians are led by the most sought after quarterback recruit in the state, Nate Stanley. Stanley honed his skills over the summer at the prestigious Nike Elite 11 Quarterback Camp. The camp attracts the top 11 quarterbacks from all over the country. With more and more Indian kids coming into the spotlight, high school and college football in the state of Oklahoma should get a lot more interesting.

I want to switch gears and talk about a fellow sportswriter that I have read for many years. His name is Berry Tramel and he writes for a little rag called *The Daily Oklahoman*. For years, I'll be honest, I didn't really care



JASONsalsman
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for Berry's writing. He usually had something bad to say about OU, which I never liked, but it was usually from '95-'98 that he did this, so how could I blame him? Anyway, I've grown to like Berry's writing through time, but an article he wrote last week memorializing his late father takes the cake. As I began to read, it reminded me of the love and good memories that me and my brother have for our dad, Mike Salsman. Tramel talked about how his dad took them to ball games, ours did the same. If there was one on TV, we were in his lap with an OU jersey on. Tramel also talked about how his Dad passed on a big personality to him and his bros. Boy, did ours ever do the same! My Dad is the reason that most of our family knows me and my big brother as Bullheads. He's also the reason I have this unmatched gift of gab and the enjoyment of having a good time, and why my brother can still knock me to the floor holding my stomach with laughter. But perhaps the most telling similarity in the two stories is Tramel's dad having a problem with Berry's high listing of Bertha Teague in his All-Time coaches list. Tramel had a run-in years earlier with Teague over some seats at a basketball game, and his Dad had never forgotten it. He respected what she had done for women's basketball but he was on his son's side to the very end. Reading those words took my mind back to Arlington, TX when I was about 4 years old and Mike was 7. We were in town to see the Rangers play some baseball and were staying at a nearby hotel. It just so happens that the visiting team was at the same hotel as us. Now because we were so into sports, Dad had us keyed up on the movers and shakers in the big leagues. So when we saw Hall-of-Famer Dave Winfield moving towards an elevator we couldn't pass up the opportunity to ask for an autograph. My Dad was a big Dave Winfield fan, thought he was a great hitter and all-around baseball player. But when Winfield blankly denied me and Mike's request for a souvenir, Dad looked him straight in the eye and said "To hell with you, we'll never watch or root for you again!" Dad has been gone since 1998, but memories like that have kept him alive in me and Mike's hearts. Dad, thanks for always making sure we were "cold-blooded dudes" and thanks for always being on our side.

Dewar High School Football			Dewar Pee Wee Football		
Games time: 7:30 pm. (Midway game on Saturday)			Game time: 10:00 am. 3rd & 4th Game time: 11:30 am. 5th & 6th (Wetumka game begins at 6:00 pm.)		
(Keifer & Allen games on Thursday)					
Date	Opponent	Place	Date	Opponent	Place
9/1	Midway	Dewar	9/8	Wetumka	Dewar
9/7	Haileyville	Dewar	9/15	Wellston	Wellston
9/14	Davenport	Davenport	9/22	Yale	Yale
9/21	Wetumka	Dewar	9/29	Davenport	Davenport
9/28	Depew	Dewar	10/6	Depew	Dewar
10/5	Caddo	Caddo	** The Dewar Pee Wee Football Association would like to thank 4 Love of the Game organization for their contribution to the league for the purchase of uniforms and equipment.		
10/11	Keifer	Keifer			
10/18	Allen	Dewar			
10/18	Weleetka	Weleetka			
11/2	Cashion	Cashion			

SPORTS

Creek athlete dominates Wyoming games

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

Last year in the Muscogee Nation News the name of Creek athlete Ella Bailey was highlighted due to the achievements she had received in the games of softball and basketball. What made this story of Bailey so interesting was that Ella is over the age of 50 and still competing at a high level. Well, this month we found that Creek men also have their share of great athletes that are still making it happen on the playing field, even at a time and age when many might consider the ‘rocking chair’ as being the appropriate place. Muscogee (Creek) athlete Marty Conrad doesn’t need any furniture. Conrad, who is 54, is an athlete and is passionate about his involvement in sports. Conrad wanted to take his game to the next level and wanted to compete against others. Maybe he thought, he just might do well, so he entered six events at the Wyoming Senior Olympics held this past July in Sheridan, WY. The results in the Senior Olympics were even better than Conrad had anticipated. Conrad captured four gold medals in different sporting events. The first medal was in the 200 yard dash where Conrad blazed his way to victory, next would come the Basketball free throw where the Creek athlete calmly and coolly sank 21 of 25 free throws. Conrad even showed the power of his arm as he took on the Softball throw. Then Conrad showed his versatility in the game of tennis,

capturing the singles championships. But he wasn’t finished there, Conrad also excelled at other events such as the 3-point basketball challenge where he took the silver medal-(2nd place). Conrad also showed his running ability in the sprints where he won the bronze-(3rd place). The Wyoming Senior Olympics was Conrad’s first time competing in the event, he has however, competed in the Wyoming state Olympics. Another event Conrad competed in were the Lori Piestewa Olympics in Arizona. Given Conrad’s great success, his future plans are to return and compete in the Wyoming Senior Olympics. Next year Conrad will find himself competing in the 55-59 age bracket. Given his commitment to the games, he was recently asked to serve on the Wyoming Senior Olympics state Board for the year of 2008. Mr. Conrad is an active basketball player who plays in his age division at senior tournaments, he also attends tennis tournaments throughout the west, and runs 5K races. A college athlete in football and wrestling while at Haskell in the early 70’s, Conrad got his influence from two coaches while at Haskell, Coach Phil Homeratha and Coach Noah Allen who taught athletes to stay active through out their lives and keep their bodies in good shape. “Coach Homeratha and Coach Allen taught me and gave me advice throughout my career,” says Conrad, “the Navajo Nation kept me running

with their races held every week during the summer along with my running partner Tsosie Brown a well known Basketball player on the rez.” Conrad also credits other

State University and has taught social studies for 35 years on various reservations through out the west. Reservations included places like the Navajo, Havasupia and Fort

Nation Guard unit in Wyoming and Arizona and worked for the Creek Nation as an employment counselor in the 80s for one year. Mr. Conrad stays active at his age of 54 so other students can see that Old Age is just another Phase of life that can be fun and healthy. He hopes to come back to Oklahoma to retire but the mountains in the West are a scared place to be and he enjoys the outdoors. Marty Conrad (Creek-Choctaw) 54, an enrolled Creek from Del City, Henryetta and Tulsa area is the son of Beatrice Barnett Deere of Glenpool, Ok. Has been married to Darlene Whiting Conrad (Northern Arapaho) for 20 years and they have a 11 year old son named Ben. Marty’s other children are Michelle Lee of Eufaula, Oretta Bea of Philadelphia, Mississippi, Windsong Conrad of Pinon, Arizona and Beaver C’ Bearing of Ethete, WY. Marty’s twin brother Ben Conrad live in Tulsa, brother Richard Barnett and sister Brenda Howell lives in Glenpool and older brother Daniel Wind lives in Henryetta. Currently Conrad works for the Lander, Wyoming public school district # 1 as an Instuctional Facilitator. His coaching duties are not as demanding today because of semi-retirement. Conrad’s clan is the Beaver and Deere clan, his tribal town Thloophlocco. Conrad grew up in the Tallahassee Church of Okmulgee. Conrad will keep on competing,



4-time Gold Medalist Marty Conrad enjoys his Gold Medals and silver and bronze that he captured in the Wyoming Senior Olympics games held in July.

influential people such as the late Bunny Hill who got Marty Conrad involved in tennis while both were coaching at Phoenix Indian High School in 1976. “ I still have the tennis racket Bunny gave me in 1978, I have carried it with me since then to all tennis tournaments and was glad to see him two weeks before his passing,” says Conrad. Mr. Conrad received his AA degree at Haskell; BA from Baker University and MA from Arizona

Hall. Conrad was aslo a principal for the Havasupia tribe that lives at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. Mr. Conrad also coached football for 31 years and Wrestling for 33 years and has been named Coach of the Year in the states of Arizona and Wyoming, he also worked as an Athletic director and coach for eight years at Rough Rock, AZ. Academically, Conrad was named Teacher of the Year twice in Arizona and was in the Army

Creek jeweler, also runner

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Writer

The hot summers of Santa Fe, New Mexico can sometimes be harsh, but in the desert and mountain environment a beautiful background for just about anything can also be created. Artists travel there to often gather their ‘moments’ of inspiration. Businessmen travel there to ‘re-focus’ against the scenic southwest. Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole artist Kenneth Johnson has lived in Santa Fe for a few years now. Johnson is an accomplished artist in the field of metalsmith, his work has been shown all over the world and has won numerous awards including the Red Earth ‘Best of show’, 2007 Creek Council House Featured Artist, and a residence at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C. When Johnson is at home and not in his studio sculpturing another exquisite piece, he also likes to train and prepare for races. Recently Johnson trained for the San Diego Marathon, also called the ‘rock n roll’ marathon, which was held on June 3. Johnson says what helps him train immensely is the high elevation of the Taos area. “This place (Taos) is 11,800 in elevation (above sea level), “the atmosphere, helps tremendously in preparing for marathons and other races. This is what helped me with the San Diego because the elevation there is 6500.” Johnson says over the year that he has run over 12 races, at least one per month which included 1 marathon-(26 miles), 2 half marathons-(13 miles). During this time, Johnson has been able to meet other talented runners such as Jonathan Ndambuki of Kenya who recently won the California International



Kenneth Johnson is congratulated by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and handed a medal after finishing first in his age category at the Creek Nation Festival 5K run. Johnson, who lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, says running helps his art.

Marathon. Johnson met Ndambuki on a plane traveling back from the marathon in San Diego. Presently, Johnson is preparing for a race closer to home called the ‘Duke City Marathon Relay’ which will be held in Albuquerque on October 21. Johnson says that he will join a team of 5 other Native American



runners from the area who will each run 5.3 miles to complete the course. What make this event also unique is that the other runners are also artists such as Johnson and the reason they are coming together is not only to face the challenge of running, but also to help a fellow artist. “We (artists) are also coming together to create a fundraiser for Lisa Tiger. Lisa lost her daughter last month to some tragic circumstances and we are looking to help her with funeral expenses”, says Johnson, “we also saw it as a good gesture, the running and art community coming together. We saw a need that we needed to address and let all artists here know that we are here for them, in one way or another.” Johnson’s future plans are to keep on running and let the benefits of it help him in his arts and other parts of his life. “I got back into running when a friend of mine showed me I needed to be healthy and I can truly say the advantages of a healthy body is definitely worth all the distance in the world.”

SHOP TALK with GERALD

Well, I hope everyone is safe and sound out there and you’re getting a chance to watch some really good sporting events happening out in Creek country and beyond.

Well, the football season is finally upon us and glory halleluia that it is, I mean “Man”! When is the last time you were jacked up for a sporting event out there? Can’t answer that one, can ya? Don’t be trying to say it was NASCAR either, you know you’re glad that its time for the brown leather ball to fly high in the air. Here in Oklahoma, we are especially happy the season is back under way, one reason why is because last college football season left a bad memory for a lot of us. I think you folks know what I am alluding to, the (ahem) Fiesta Bowl game with OU against that pip-squeak of a team-Boise State. You know I still don’t think that game really happened, it was probably just a scrimmage, they were just trying out some different kind of tricks and stuff, OU knew the game was over and said there ya go Boise, go ahead and play make believe!

Anyway, speaking of the Sooners, the games are well under way and by the time you read this, the Sooners will be doing well, hopefully. One reason for a positive belief is that the position of quarterback will be filled by a Native American. Thats right, in August Head Coach Bob Stoops named Sam Bradford as the starting QB. Bradford who hails from Oklahoma City announced on a local sports television program that he is Cherokee. It will be interesting to see the traditional ‘sooner schooner’ trounce out on the field after a scoring touchdown. The little wagon pulled by two shetland ponies is supposed to symbolize the land-run developing statehood. But again the wagons will have to be thankful to an Indian in helping them score. You know just when we thought



GERALD Wofford
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we could lay the NBA to rest for a while after the championship games, but noooo! Seems as though an NBA official by the name of Tim Donaghy has pleaded guilty to federal felony conspiracy charges alleging that he passed along inside information on NBA games which may have led to the outcome of final scores. I know this going to sound naive to you folks, but if you can’t trust an official, who can you trust? I know everyone out there has questioned a call either on TV or attending a local game. Some of you even have to admit you stood up in front of the masses and yelled at an extreme audio decibal protesting your disagreement with the men in the zebra shirts ruling. But even with the love-hate relationship, you still know deep down that the official had things under control and kept the game under wraps and that the better team could win each night. But now, hey, you’re really not so sure. If an established entity like the National Basketball Association just can’t keep the rulers of the game in tact, it makes you question the overall ending of so many games now. Hopefully Donaghy is the only bad apple in the bunch, although their has been speculation that others may have been linked. Lets get that ball bouncing the right way. Not much has been said about the Sequoyah Indians as they are about to enter another football season, but you just can’t count out the boys in maroon, it shouldn’t be of any surprise to anyone that Sequoyah has sneaked up on teams before. Well, I hope you’re able to get out and enjoy some of the local games on the High School football level. I know many of you have kids that are proudly representing their team on the gridiron and have a good story or two to brag about, and again we want to hear about it and tell everyone else about it too. So drop us a line and let us know the low-down.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

What do you think of the Michael Vick case involving dogfighting?

GERALD WOFFORD

Well kicking the dog to the curb took on a whole new meaning with the Michael Vick case, and it just goes to show that their are still watchdog (pun intended) groups out there that have enough might to keep laws intact. Animal rights groups are very happy that Vick was made an example of. What Vick and his co-horts did to these animals is deplorable. Hopefully he

has learned his lesson, he will have plenty of downtime to understand it. Hopefully he is truly sorry, and will make amends like donating time and money to these animal rights groups. After two or three years, and a repentful Vick has tried, he should be allowed to re-enter the NFL and continue to make his profession as he did before.

JASON SALSAMAN

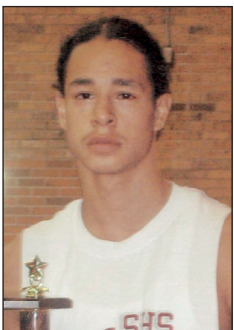
I will say one thing before this whole argument starts; I do not agree with dog fighting and I think Michael Vick should be punished by law just like any regular person. Now, with that being said I think this is just one more instance of the media, which happens to be my profession, blowing a story entirely out of proportion and milking it for all it’s worth. Can we please stop talking about this story?! I mean people

are acting like he went on a killing spree or something. This guy fought and killed dogs, but he’s getting more publicity than the BTK killer. Unbelievable! Just ask yourselves if you really care that much. Do you? I didn’t think so. Let’s focus on the good things that are happening in sports and quit glorifying these thugs by giving them increased exposure.

Building Models Creates Cultural Bridge
FEATURES
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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

October, 2007
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www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Ellis, Tiger in Run-off for Principal Chief Tribal citizens elect Alfred Berryhill as Second Chief



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2007 Election Results

On September 22, 2007 MCN citizens cast their votes in this years election. As polls began to close, it soon became evident that Alfred Berryhill was going to be elected as Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, gaining 55.7 percent of the votes. This percentage keeps Second Chief Berryhill from having to go through a run-off. When asked how he felt about winning the race Berryhill replied, "I was more relieved than anything. There is something you can't explain, like feeling shocked and glad at the same time."

In the race for Principal Chief, current Principal Chief, A.D. Ellis took 39.83 percent of the votes and George Tiger took 24.27 percent of the votes. Since neither candidate took over 50 percent of the votes a run-off will take place. This election will take place on November 3, 2007.

The race for principal chief was not the only one to have a run-off, several of the races for National Council seats are forced to have a run-off election as well. To view national council election results and candidates in a run-off see Election page A-3

MNN/Nicholas Howk

Johnson knows Debate Blake Johnson argues way to National Debate Championship

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer r

NORMAN— In June when I began working at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department I heard of a Creek citizen who was a student at the University of Oklahoma and had recently won the national championship in debate. As soon as I heard this I began researching who this individual was and quickly found out that he was Blake Johnson. Blake is the son of Joe and Beverly Johnson of Austin, the grandson of Leia Underwood of Eufaula and Garland and Geona Curtis of Eufaula, Ok.

University of Oklahoma President David Bored is quoted saying that Blake and his partner Conor Cleary winning the national debate championship is one of the finest moments in OU history.

Previous to winning the national championship, Johnson and Cleary were on a record-breaking run in which they won the Harvard University Invitational Policy tournament, the Wake Forest University Franklin R. Dixie Classic Policy tournament and the Northwestern State Tournament. The duo finished the national tournament with ideal perfect 14-0 record. Along the journey Johnson and Cleary beat 200 teams which made the team the first in OU's history to win all three tournaments.

This year's debate topics consisted of four Supreme Court policies concerning the following: abortion rights, school desegregation, violence against women and military tribunals and enemy combatant status.



Pictured above, from left to right, are: Conor Cleary and Blake Johnson. These two young men were seen practicing before the National Debate Championship held in Norman.
Photo submitted

After getting in contact with Blake's father, Joe Johnson, I was able to send Blake a set of interview questions in hopes of letting the readers of the Muscogee Nation News learn more about Blake.

The interview questions and answers are listed below.

Q: Tell me a little about how you got into debate.

A: My mom encouraged me to try debate when I was enrolling for high school. I suppose she observed a natural proclivity. After graduating from high school, I did not plan on ever debating again. As soon as I started classes at OU, however, their policy debate team began courting me. This was a different kind of debate than I had done in high school, so I was somewhat hesitant. Ultimately, though, I fell in love with the program, the other kids on the team and Jackie, and decided to give it a try.

SEE DEBATE - A8

Bikers journey through Trail of Tears

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — On Monday, September 17 over 200 bikers gathered around the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee, OK. The bikers were greeted by a host of Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees, community members and city officials. The group arrived in Okmulgee after a three day journey that began in Chattanooga, Tenn. The bikers in the group were following a route that

was close to the original Trail of Tears. A presentation was made to Second Chief Alfred Berryhill in the form of a scholarship that was given to the College of the Muscogee Nation. Following the event at the Council House, the bikers all went to the Okmulgee Community Center for a meal to close out the day. If you missed the bikers this year, you can look for them to be back around the same time next year.



Muscogee (Creek) Gina Jandreau

Justice Harjo-Ware comments on public censure

1. The 1979 Muscogee Constitution provides specific roles for the National Council and Principal Chief in spending the People's money "...Any expenditure of Muscogee money must have the approval of the Muscogee National Council. The Principal Chief does not approve expenditures, he identifies them."
2. The Muscogee National Council DID NOT violate an order of the Muscogee Supreme Court "...Officials are not held in contempt when a court only indicates disapproval without issuance of a specific order. Where there is no order, there can be no contempt of it."
3. The National Council engaged in NO CONTEMPTUOUS behavior during the 2007 Annual Budget process "...The National Council, acting as a whole, did not perform the contemptuous act of which it is accused. There is no support for indirect criminal contempt."
4. There is no constitutional limitation on National Council's authority to legislate or appropriate during the Annual Budget process "...On July 12, 2007, we held that the fact finding authority of the judiciary could not be stripped away by legislative fiat. By the same token, the authority and spending responsibility of the legislature cannot be stripped away by judicial fiat."

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS - SECTION A

EXECUTIVE A2

Message from the Office of the Principal and Second Chief



TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings; Message from the desk of the Speaker George Tiger



BUSINESS A5

UPDATE: Creek Nation Tulsa Casino



HEALTH A6

From the desk of the Chief Executive Officer of the Division of Health



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

"Frybread Throwdown"



EDUCATION A8

Tribal College: Receiving Scholarships



EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Principal Chief

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted on October 1, 2007

Hello Friends & tribal citizens, I am finally getting time to write my monthly column. It's fall now in Oklahoma and the seasonal change is really becoming noticeable. The cool weather and the rain, it's getting to be that time for farmers to prepare for the winter. Election primaries are now over and we appreciate the people who voted. Everyone needs to use their voting privilege to support their favorite candidate for the election. I believe a record number of citizens voted in this election.



Chief Ellis

Also, Monday September 24, 2007, Mr. Ken Davis, Veteran Affairs Director moved into the new Veterans building. Everyone should take time to drop in to see this unusual building design. Also say "Hi" to Fannie Barnett, the Veteran Affairs secretary. The Tulsa Casino is rapidly taking shape as a huge project and is projected to be finished in August 2008. We have so many construction projects underway that it would take a whole page to list. I think there are 25 projects now under construction and

about 18 proposed to start soon. Our Nation is growing and prospering. Monday, October 1, 2008 is the beginning of our new fiscal year, 2008. Many if not all, of our programs will be receiving funds to complete the next year such as education, Social Services, etc. This takes many millions of dollars to see that all citizens are served properly through each program. It seems that many people are getting sick and that many are losing their lives, we need to remember these friends who need our prayers they need our help through these stressful times in their lives. Also, remember our men and women in the military who make this way of life possible. Mvto to all! Chief Ellis

From the Office of the Second Chief

I can't begin to express the gratitude I have for the faith you have entrusted me with to be your Second Chief for another four year term. I wish to thank all who helped me with the many monetary contributions and time that was volunteered through the campaign fund-raisers. Our largest and most single obstacle that we had to overcome was the campaign material that was to be mailed out. The volunteers who assisted in this arduous task will not be forgotten. I know I couldn't have done it alone. I also want to thank those who donated the campaign cards. There were many cakes, pies, hamburgers, hot dogs, pop, etc. that were donated towards the fund-raisers. Even our very imminent bingo caller gave us all a day of laughter. The watch party was a success that was attended by many who assisted with foods of all types; as well as drinks, cups, plates and decorations. I want to offer a special prayer to those who ran against me and thank them for a clean campaign. I also want to express my heartfelt thanks to the many voters who believed in me.



Second Chief Berryhill

May God richly bless each of you. Without further adieu, I now continue with an excerpt from "William Bartram on the Southeastern Indians; Edited and annotated by Gregory A. Waselkov and Kathryn E. Holland Braund": "Leaving behind the traders, Bartram and the original "company of adventures" rode deeper into the Creek country. July 13, we left the Apalachucia town, and three days journey brought us to Talasse, a town on the Tallapoosa river, North East great branch of the Alabama or Mobile river, having passed over a vast level plain country of expansive savannas, groves, Cane swamps and open Pine forests, watered by innumerable rivulets and brooks, tributary to Apalachucia and Mobile, we now alter our course, turning to the left hand, Southerly, and descending near the river banks, continually in sight of the Indian plantations and commons adjacent to their towns. Passed by Otasse, an ancient famous Muscogulge town. The next settlement we came to was Coolome, where we stayed two days, and having letters for Mr. Germany, the

principal trader of Coolome, I meant to consult with him in matters relative to my affairs and future proceedings. Here are very extensive old fields, the abandoned plantations and commons of the old town, on the East side of the river, but the settlement removed, and the new town stands on the opposite shore, in a charming fruitful plain, under an elevated ride of hills, the swelling beds or bases of which are covered with a pleasing verdure (The green color of healthy grown plants) of grass, but the last ascent is steeper, and towards the summit discovers shelving rocky cliffs, which appear to be continually splitting and bursting to pieces, scattering their thin exfoliations over the tops of the grassy knolls beneath. The plain is narrow where the town is built: their houses are neat, commodious buildings, a wooden frame with plastered walls, and roofed with Cypress bark or shingles; every habitation consists of four oblong square houses, of one story, of the same form and dimensions, and so situated as to form an exact square, encompassing an area or courtyard of about a quarter an acre of ground, leaving an entrance into it at each corner. Here is a beautiful new square or areopagus, in the centre of the new town; but the stores of the principal trader and two or three

SEE SECOND CHIEF - A3

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Citizen expresses appreciation to Office of Child Care Editor:

Thank you so much for the provision of the school clothing allowance program. Most notably, thank you for providing it to Creek citizens who are living outside the boundaries. After receiving the award, we bought nine bags full of clothes from Wal-Mart for our son Gabriel. We bought everything from socks to shirts, jeans and even shoes! We planned a budget, shopped smart (chose items from the clearance section) and the result was nine bags stuffed full of new school clothes. We could not have done such a shopping spree had it not been for this program. Way to go Office of Child Care! Sincerely, Jennifer, Matt, and Gabriel (Lvm-he) Wilson, Oklahoma City, OK

Citizen expresses appreciation for monetary help Editor:

We would like to thank the Muscogee Creek Nation for the monetary help for our Oklahoma Indian Mission Conference meeting in June. Special thanks to Pete Beaver, who sponsored the bill, and his co-sponsors. Sincerely, Karen King, Okmulgee, OK

Citizen asks for assistance Editor:

This letter is regards to whom can help us Creek members who have a CDIB and do not live in the jurisdictional boundaries, reading my Creek newspaper, which I appreciate every month and enjoy reading about all the good things that our people have accomplished and all the help that is there for our young people. Only thing is if we don't live in the boundaries there is no help for us. I live in Choctaw, Oklahoma which is only 20 miles outside of Oklahoma City, we used to have a local office in Oklahoma City but no more they closed our little office and have not open another. Being half Creek and half Choctaw, full blood Indian and very proud. There's really no helping for us which I know a lot of us Creek's would love to

have the same opportunity ask the ones that do live in your boundaries. We have a local tribe her, but if your not of their tribe there is no assistance here for us. We have their medical and court system but we still have to pay a fee for court. There are a lot our people that could use the commodities and grants but there again we are not in the boundaries. I wish we had the help like our people do there. I love it, I'm Creek Indian, but I'm disappointed that just because I don't live in the boundaries there is not opportunities for us. I have children and grandchildren that could use grants. We do get help with school clothing, but a little more help would much be appreciated. Their are so many of us that needs the help, but if there is not a local office for us we are lost. A lot of people do not have transportation so they cannot travel to Okmulgee. You cannot get any help from the local tribes if you do not have a CDIB card. I just hope someone reads this and realize we need more help even if we don't live in your boundaries. There are a lot of Indians on Oklahoma City and the surrounding areas that needs those opportunities and the programs that help with education. Did the government support only certain people if they are in the boundaries? Yes, it sounds like it does. I thought as a proud creek citizen we are all the same. Please re-consider outside the boundaries. Sincerely, Cassandra Russell, Choctaw, OK

Citizen expresses appreciation of voter turnout Editor:

I would like to thank each and every Mvskoke citizen who voted during the September 22 primary election. I appreciate your confidence in those elected to represent you as Chief, Second Chief and National Council Representative. I would like to ask whether you vote at the precinct, absentee or are voting for a new choice that you return to the polls November 3 for the general election. Your vote is very important on the outcome of this coming election. Mvto. Sincerely, David Nichols, Okmulgee, OK

SEE LETTERS - A3

District Court Filings for September 2007

Civil:

World Acceptance Corp. v. Fred Lowe
Royal Finance v. Carmelita Natseway
Royal Finance v. Dean Williams
Citifinancial Services Inc., v. Faith Watashe
In re: Validation of the Marriage: Janice Berryhill
Nichole Kinsey v. Brian Palmer
B&B Advance Loan v. Dawna Dutchy

Divorce:

Tiffany Miller v. Matthew Miller
Jeff Francis Jr. v. Christina Francis
Sherrie Barnett v. Daniel McElroy
Alice Lowe v. James Lowe

Family Domestic:

TCSS, ex rel., Mary Tiger v. Shannon McBroom

Protective Orders::

Dawn Releford v. Tony Jamerson
Alane Graffman v. Kathy Jacobs
Dawn Releford v. Tony Jamerson
Jamie McIntosh v. Eldon Sheen
Camila Tiger v. Darryl Tiger
Tammy Pitman v. Ricky Perez
Jonathan Barber v. Geneva Barber

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Catherine Cozart

MCN v. Richard Crossland
MCN v. Michael Whitehead

MCN v. Edgar Shaffer
MCN v. Jonathan Swift
MCN v. Rosemary Stephens

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Robert Lewis
MCN v. Johnnie Griffin
MCN v. Joshua Quinton
MCN v. Bobby Broomhall
MCN v. Michael Broomhall
MCN v. Dustin Crucey
MCN v. Franklin Jeffery

Traffic:

MCN v. Charles McKown

Foreign Judgment
Small Claims
Small Claims
Foreign Judgment
Petition
Petition
Foreign Judgment

Divorce
Divorce
Divorce
Divorce

Petition to Register District Court Order

Ex-Parte
Ex-Parte
Ex-Parte
Ex-Parte
Ex-Parte
Ex-Parte
Ex-Parte

Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Ct. 3: Possession of Alcohol
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 2: Open Receptacle containing Alcohol
Ct. 3: Disorderly Conduct

Ct. 1: Larceny
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct

DUS

MCN v. Charles McKown
MCN v. Maurice Friday
MCN v. Mandrel Cozart
MCN v. Marcus Hopson
MCN v. Timothy Patterson
MCN v. Timothy Patterson
MCN v. Timothy Patterson
MCN v. Darren Hibbs
MCN v. Darren Hibbs
MCN v. Ronald England Jr.
MCN v. Ronald England Jr.
MCN v. Elizabeth Kolb
MCN v. Elizabeth Kolb
MCN v. Ashley Lowrey
MCN v. James Madewell
MCN v. James Madewell
MCN v. Josh Bahne
MCN v. Marson Edwards
MCN v. Christopher Wallace
MCN v. Christopher Wallace
MCN v. Lance Jorgenson
MCN v. Lance Jorgenson
MCN v. Kirk Ohara
MCN v. Wyatt Wixon
MCN v. Kent Dewitt
MCN v. Kent Dewitt
MCN v. John Wallace
MCN v. Bobby Weaver
MCN v. Dillion Weaver

MCN v. Jenece Tramble
MCN v. Jenece Tramble
MCN v. Jenece Tramble
MCN v. Bobby Broomhall
MCN v. Joseph Guthrie
MCN v.
MCN v.
MCN v. Sandow Wison
MCN v. Kyle Brown
MCN v. Thomas Hammond
MCN v. Terri Whittle
MCN v. Demetria Griffin
MCN v. Demetria Griffin
MCN v. Demetria Griffin
MCN v. John Griffin
MCN v. Robert Stites
MCN v. Robert Stites
MCN v. Robert Stites

Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
Trespass
Disorderly Conduct
Disorderly Conduct
Expired Tag
DUS
No Insurance
Expired Tag
No Insurance
Expired Tag
No Insurance
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
DUS
Disorderly Conduct
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DUS
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Expired Tag
No Insurance
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Disorderly Conduct
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DUS
No Insurance
Expired Tag
Transporting an Open Container
Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Expired Tag
No Insurance
No Driver's License
DUS
Expired Driver's License
Possession of Alcohol
Open Container
Possession of Illegal Drugs
Disorderly Conduct
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
No Insurance
No Insurance
No Driver's License
Expired Tag
No Insurance
No Insurance
Expired Tag
DUS

SEE LEGAL NOTICES - A3

Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

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LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of the Speaker

He(n)sci!!

Our forefathers fought for rights that we enjoy as First Americans. They didn't hesitate in defending this country for the freedom we enjoy. Our languages were used to help defeat the enemy in major conflicts. There was a time we weren't even recognized as citizens. There was a period of time we didn't have the right to vote.

In the last state and national political season there was a record turnout of Native voters that made a difference. There were a record number of Native candidates that pursued various Oklahoma state offices and a majority of them were elected. Each political season brings encouragement from tribal leaders throughout the country in the



Tiger

Statement from George Tiger, Speaker of the Muscogee Creek National Council

There is a reason we chose this site for this statement.

Above us is the Creek Council Oak, and this tree is a direct link to the past history and the democratic tradition of this Tribe. When our forefathers were removed from our homes in the Southeast, and were marched west to the Indian territory, and our new home, we took a piece of our history and democratic tradition with us, and the Council fire from our homes became the Council fire of our new western home.

The Creek democracy has been functioning for decades, and we believe a reflection of the Muscogee Creek people who elected us throughout the districts of the Creek Nation. This is about our past, and the part of history that holds the democratic traditions of the Muscogee Creek people. Our democracy is one of the oldest in the world, and the actions of our courts have put this in jeopardy.

The National Council has legislated 1,373 laws and resolutions in the past four years. I am very proud of this group and what we have accomplished together, and honored that I have had the privilege of acting as the Speaker of the National Council for the past two years. Of all these legislative items, there have only been 14 vetoes from the Principal Chief. That is just a little more

importance of the Native voice being heard. And each political season the Native voice is being heard as a stronger and louder voice. Tribal governments are finally being recognized for their economic and political impact. The Native Vote is making a difference throughout the country.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is one of the largest Indian Nations in the country with a population of more than 65,000. During the primary election held recently less than 5,000 voted. There were more than 2,000 pieces of returned mail to candidates running for national office of the tribe due to bad addresses. We must take the responsibility to make sure our right to vote is not going to be penalized due to inaccurate information such as bad addresses. Each candidate encourages and reminds tribal members to vote and yet as much as we take pride in voting in other elections we fail to exercise that right in our own elections. Why?

Apathy is defined in Webster's

dictionary as lack of feeling, emotion, interest or concern. There was a time when state and national candidates would never solicit the Native Vote and sometimes were overheard saying "they won't make a difference, they don't even vote in their own elections". I know our tribal members have an interest in their government.

During this election season there have been emotional concerns shared with candidates. The best way for tribal members to share their feelings or their concerns is to vote. Every vote is important. Every vote does count. The momentum that's been shown by the Native Vote in other elections begins with exercising our rights is by voting in our elections.

I want to encourage our tribal members that can vote to please do so. Let's show everyone our elections are just as important as any other elections. Vote in the general election on November 3rd.

I appreciate the continued words of encouragement. MVTO

than one percent of our actions subjected to a veto by the Chief, but one of these vetoes, overridden by the National Council resulted in a lawsuit being filed by the Chief against the National Council, and late last week, the Supreme Court of our Nation ruled in favor of the Chief. We believe our actions have been just and true, and we also believe the ruling by our Supreme Court holding the National

around Oklahoma, and felt it necessary to respond publicly to these actions.

We, as a National Council have stepped forward to be leaders of our Nation when it was necessary for leadership to be present. At no time were the actions of this National Council designed to be disrespectful of other officials, or to overstep our boundaries, well established by the Constitution of the Muscogee Creek Nation.



But we believe this to be a tremendous mistake, and a slap in the face to the established democracy of our Nation. Now, the democracy of the Muscogee Creek Nation is being changed and damaged through a decision in our own court system. We do not agree with the decision, and want our voices to be heard. The timing of this decision, on the eve of elections make this action blatantly political, and the people of the Nation deserve better leadership than this. While we will do nothing to stop or arrest the censure notices from going public, we will continue to exercise our democratic right to speak, and dissent that a group of judges, deciding for the Chief, and revising the constitutional duties of the Tribe's legislature is not right, and unjust. We also believe the people of the Creek Nation will see through this attempt to put the National Council on a leash, and will reject it.

Council in contempt is not a just decision, and we must speak out. The ruling of the Supreme Court has held this body in contempt, and has now, through judicial means stripped this legislature of the duty that every other legislative body in the world has, the ability to exercise legislative oversight to the budget process. In addition to this, they have also added the measure of public censure for the National Council, so we expect items like this one will soon be published in newspapers

Second Chief

continued from A2

Indians habitations, stand near the banks of the opposite shore on the site of the old Coolome town. The Tallapoose river is here three hundred yards over, and about fifteen or twenty feet water, which is very clear, agreeable to the taste, esteemed salubrious (Conducive or favorable to health or wellbeing), and runs with a steady, active current.

Being now recruited and refitted, having obtained a guide to set us in the great trading path for West Florida, early in the morning we sat off for Mobile: our progress for about eighteen miles was through a magnificent forest, just without or skirting on the Indian plantations, frequently having a view of their distant towns, over plains or old fields. . . .

The path to Mobile took the travelers east of the Alabama River. Along the way, Bartram noticed a species of tall grass that exudes a resin that "[399] possesses a very agreeable fragrance and bitterish taste, somewhat like frankincense or turpentine, which is chewed by the Indians and traders, to cleanse their teeth and mouth, and sweeten their breath." An abundance of wild grapes in this region also prompted him to comment.

The Indians gather great quantities of them, which they prepare for keeping, by first sweating them on hurdles over a gentle fire, and afterwards dry them on their bunches in the sun and air, and store them for provisions. . . .

(I guess that tells us who had bad breath and quite possibly who first had chewing gum.) Mvto.

Letters

continued from A2

Citizen voices concern

Editor:

I am writing this letter to the editors of all newspapers located in the Muscogee Nation that published the public censor of the National Council.

First, they take an intra-tribal dispute to the general public just weeks before our national election-a political strategy to get the Chief re-elected.

The Court also misinterpreted the PLAIN LANGUAGE of our Constitution - the People have ratified our Constitution to mean just exactly what it says.

Unfortunately, the cost of publishing the censor could have paid for children's eye glasses, energy assistance for the elderly, higher education grants for students, legal services for elderly or transportation to the clinic; this list could go on and on. The cost to publish the notice in the Daily Oklahoman was over \$11,000. What was the total cost?

The Court ruled the legislation which approved the 2007 budget was unconstitutional; under what authority is the Tribe spending since this ruling was made?

Why did the Court publish the voting record of the Council? All voting records are published in the Tribal newspaper each month and are public record as is the Tribal Spending.

The Chief devoted half of the front page of the September issue of the Muscogee Nation News for the censure notice, the other half for a Coal Mine Museum - absolutely nothing in the entire edition about the Election coming up on September 22. Is this strategy to have a low voter turn-out? This

is in direct disregard for the citizens of the Muscogee Nation.

The Court published an order for the Speaker of the National Council return the official court transcript of the hearing held July 18, 2007. Why wasn't this published in the August issue of the paper? Was that too far in advance of the election?

Is the court so loosely organized that they cannot manage and keep up with their own business?

These questions are among a few that citizens should think about before they vote in the September election.

I was directly affected by unfair actions of the staff of the present Chief. Maybe at his direction. I intended to file for a Nation Council seat in the Okmulgee District, a position I served for many terms in the past. However, when I went to file, the secretary for the election Board denied me the opportunity stating I did not have proof of residency. I have lived at the same address for over 30 years. My rights as a Creek citizen were violated.

The Court and Chief are attempting to change the Constitution and government to a DICTATORSHIP and a rubber stamp council. The culture and history of the Muscogee Nation government has always advocated for the people, and I don't think the people will stand for a group of appointed officials and a weak Chief to arbitrarily change that. The Chief has catered to the California Creek Association for years and now the Court is doing the same!

Please vote in the general election. We need a strong Chief with energy and leadership qualities necessary to lead our nation.

Sincerely
David Lewis, Jr., Henryretta, OK

2007 Election Results

Principal Chief	Percentage		
A.D. Ellis (I)	39.83%	Carmin S. Tecumseh	44.83%
Marc Fields	3.20%		
Jeff Fife	14.70%	Tukvptce District	
Jason Nichols	18.00%	National Council Representative	
George Tiger	24.27%	Seat A (4 years)	
		Shirlene M. Ade	42.81%
		Augusta Anderson	14.56%
Second Chief		Nathan Buck	15.09%
Alfred L. Berryhill	55.77%	Sylvanna Caldwell (I)	15.26%
Edwin Marshall	15.81%	James R. MCGirt	12.28%
Lucas Taylor	28.41%		
		Tulsa District	
Creek District		National Council Representative	
National Council Representative		Seat A (4 years)	
Seat A (4 years)		Darrin Bell	19.01%
Duke M. Harjo (I)	37.61%	Ronald Allen Cleghorn(I)	48.50%
David W. Hill	62.39%	Larry L. Oliver	32.49%
		National Council Representative	
National Council Representative		Seat B (2 years)	
Seat B (2 years)		Patricia A. Clark	30.86%
Tony L. Bell	23.12%	Cherrah Quiett	69.14%
Larry J. Cahwee	44.83%		
Craig Mosquito	32.05%	National Council Representative	
		Seat C (4 years)	
National Council Representative		Steve Bruner	57.08%
Seat C (4 years)		Forbes Perkins	42.92%
Roger D. Barnett (I)	65.51%		
Betty J. Pulver	34.49%	National Council Representative	
		Seat F (2 years)	
McIntosh District		Brent Beaver	35.68%
National Council Representative		Kara Medina	48.28%
Seat A (4 years)		Owen Sapulpa	16.04%
Tommy O. Pickering (I)	49.73%		
Darrell Proctor	50.27%	Wagoner District	
		National Council Representative	
National Council Representative		Seat A (4 years)	
Seat B (2 years)		Richard M. Berryhill	21.46%
Wilson Bear	19.14%	Barbara Jean Gillespie	41.63%
Adam Jones, III	47.26%	Johnnie Greene	29.61%
Anthony D. Notaro (I)	33.60%	Jack Lewis	7.30%
National Council Representative			
Seat C (4 years)			
Selina Jayne-Dornan	58.27%		
Thomas McIntosh	41.73%		
Muscogee District			
National Council Representative			
Seat B (2 years)			
Robert Eddie Lagrone (I)	54.38%		
Sandra Parish	45.62%		
Okfuskee District			
National Council Representative			
Seat A (4 years)			
Sherryll A. Gonseth	27.20%		
Travis Scott	72.80%		
National Council Representative			
Seat B (2 years)			
Percy Dug Sharp	32.37%		
Lena Wind	67.63%		
Okmulgee District			
National Council Representative			
Seat A (4 years)			
Etta M. Checotah	13.90%		
Joe S. Jackson	19.34%		
Robert William Jones (I)	26.08%		
David Nichols	40.67%		
National Council Representative			
Seat B (2 years)			
Theodore Isham	16.47%		
Lanissa Jack-Melton	18.79%		
Keeper Johnson (I)	43.79%		
Wilbert Lowe	20.95%		
National Council Representative			
Seat C (4 years)			
Terrie Anderson	33.79%		
Jim B. Harjo	15.17%		
Glenn Jones	32.16%		
Sandra Peters	11.38%		
Marcus W. Proctor	7.50%		
National Council Representative			
Seat D (2 years)			
R.M. Bo Johnson (I)	28.10%		
Richard Wesley Larney	27.07%		

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)
) CASE NO.AD-2007-08
A.R.D.)
) Before the Honorable Judge Moore
A minor child.) Judge of the District Court

NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION
FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PUTATIVE FATHER

TO: Charles E. Nash
11815 N. 320 Road
Morris, OK 74445

On May 25, 2007, an Application was filed in this Court for the termination of the parental rights of the putative father of A.R.D., a minor child born out of wedlock at Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, on 8-13-2005, to Hadley Vardell, now Bowen, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said Application is set for hearing on the 10th day of October, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 o'clock A.M.

Petitioner(s) have alleged in their Petition that you are the putative father. Petitioners have alleged that your paternal rights should be terminated because you have failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish your parental rights with the child.

YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS REGARDING THIS CHILD.

YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS REGARDING THIS CHILD AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHT HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE AUGUST 25, REGULAR SESSION.

AUGUST 25, REGULAR SESSION

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVE **LARRY BIBLE**;

VETO MESSAGE:

• VETO (15-9-0) TR 07-077, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF NANCY NIBS TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, RON CLEGHORN AND JEFF FIFE.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-084, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OF OKLAHOMA, FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT, INSTALLATION AND REHABILITATION OF DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL FACILITIES FOR INDIAN FAMILIES RESIDING IN OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**;

• APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 07-085, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE NATION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE OKLAHOMA CITY AREA INTER-TRIBAL HEALTH BOARD SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**;

REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS EXCUSED;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) TR 07-086, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUSPENDING SECTION "S" OF THE 2004 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN UNTIL A BUSINESS PLAN AND DESIGN IS SUBMITTED SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 07-088, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDMENT TO THE LOAN AGREEMENT WITH JP MORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. FOR INTERIM FINANCING TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW TULSA CASINO UNTIL PERMANENT FINANCING CAN BE OBTAINED;

• RETURN TO COMMITTEE (20-3-0) NCA 07-117, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN ANNUAL APPROPRIATION TO THE "HARRY LONG LIVING TREASURE FUND" OF BACONE COLLEGE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENTS SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$50,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **THOMAS MCINTOSH, BILL FIFE AND SAM ALEXANDER**;

• APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA 07-164, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO COVENANT HARVEST MINISTRIES, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BARNETT; D. HARJO** (\$19,883.00);

VOTING NO WAS: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-182, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, "TAXATION AND REVENUE," OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**;

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-197, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMEND-

ING NCA 06-051 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO PROJECT) AS AMENDED BY NCA 06-110, AND NCA 06-179, TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL MONIES TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FACILITY SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** (\$271,612.00);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-210, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT OF OUTPATIENT SURGERY SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** (\$65,029.16);

• APPROVED (16-6-1) NCA 07-211, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO TWO ENROLLED MEMBERS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO ATTEND THE 2007 OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT CELEBRATION IN MACON, GEORGIA SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** (\$2,200.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, RON CLEGHORN AND PAULA WILLITS**;

ABSTAIN WAS **ROBERT JONES**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-212, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ELDER WITH PURCHASING A WHEELCHAIR LIFT SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** (\$2,319.00);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-213, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO DEEP FORK HILLABEE BAPTIST CHURCH SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$10,000.00);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-214, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE SPECIAL ACADEMIC/EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAM SPONSOR: **RICHARD BERRYHILL** (\$20,000.00);

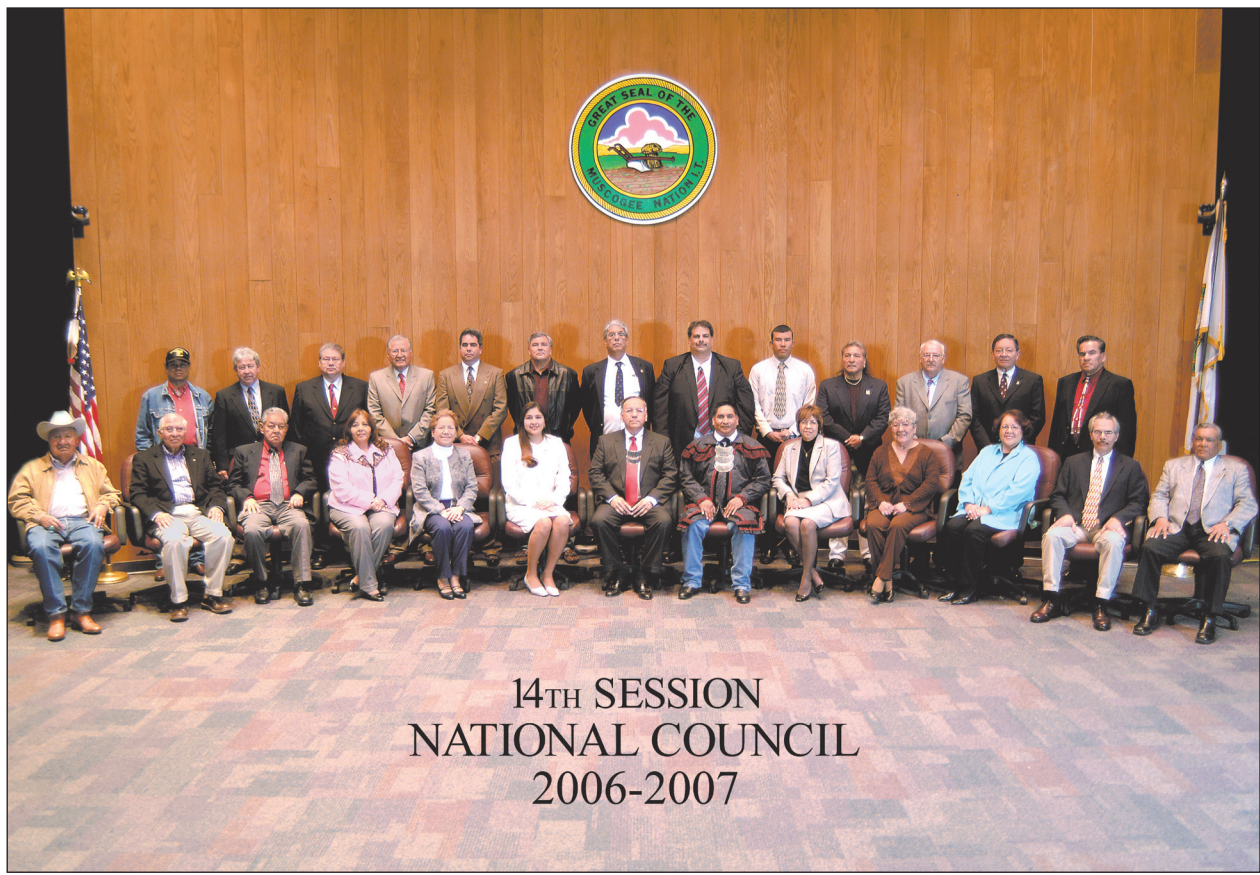
• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-215, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 100TH YEAR CELEBRATION OF HICKORY GROUND #1 BAPTIST CHURCH SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. MCINTOSH; T. PICKERING** (\$1,500.00);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-216, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA AREA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES TO HELP SPONSOR THE 22ND ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE SPONSOR: **R. JONES**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ADE; R. BARNETT; P. BEAVER; R. CLEGHORN** (\$800.00);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-1-0) NCA 07-217, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE 15-PASSENGER VAN FOR FIRST INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF MOORE SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** (\$30,972.00);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-218, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN FOR TEEN CHALLENGE PROGRAM SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO** (\$2,425.00);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-220, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-101 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION MUSEUM, CULTURAL CENTER AND ARCHIVES REVOLVING FUND AND A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER ARCHIVES DEVELOPMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPING, DESIGNING, IMPLEMENTING AND CONSTRUCTING A NATION-



ALLY ACCREDITED MUSEUM, CULTURAL CENTER AND REPOSITORY FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 07-221, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HEALTH SYSTEM SUPPLEMENTING THE CURRENT AMOUNT OF FUNDING ALLOCATED TO THE CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$475,000.00);

• APPROVED (19-4-0) NCA 07-222, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS AWARDED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING, FOR ACCELERATING JOB CREATION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, THOMAS MCINTOSH, RON CLEGHORN AND RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-223, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS FOR ANY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WHO SUFFERS FROM OR IS OTHERWISE PRONE TO CHRONIC ILLNESS SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER** (\$50,000.00);

• RETURNED TO COMMUNITY SERVICES & CULTURAL COMMITTEE (15-8-0) NCA 07-224, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO CONSTRUCT A SANCTUARY FOR BUTLER CREEK INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER; R. CLEGHORN** (\$222,200.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, TOM PICKERING, THOMAS MCINTOSH, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, SHIRLENE ADE, SAM ALEXANDER AND RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-225, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION AS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANCTUARY FOR FIFE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ACCEPT THE GIFT DEED TO THE EXISTING FIFE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BUILDING AND LAND SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER** (\$107,000.00);

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS YAHOLA** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-226, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY AS A MATCHING GRANT TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER** (\$23,910.00);

• APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA 07-229, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE

(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN FOR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE EXPENSES SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER** (\$3,000.00);

VOTING NO WAS **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

• APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA 07-230, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH VEHICLE EXPENSES SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO** (\$5,000.00);

VOTING NO WAS **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

• APPROVED (21-2-0) NCA 07-231, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF SECOND CHIEF'S BUDGET SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$5,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE AND JEFF FIFE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **JEFF FIFE** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-232, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO GRAVE CREEK INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES** (\$600.00);

• APPROVED (17-6-0) NCA 07-235, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-257 TO ALLOW FUNDS NO LONGER NEEDED AS SECURITY FOR CONSTRUCTION BONDING TO BE RELEASED TO MUSCOGEE NATION BUSINESS ENTERPRISE FOR OPERATING EXPENSES SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA, RONALD CLEGHORN, PAULA WILLITS AND RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-236, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATION AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008 SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA 07-237, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION IN SUPPORT OF A TRADITIONAL DELEGATION TO OBSERVE THE "OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT CELEBRATION" SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$12,760.00);

VOTING NO WAS **RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-238, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES-NATURAL DISASTER PROGRAM SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** (\$90,000.00);

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 07-239, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES-OFFICE OF CHILD CARE PROGRAM SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** (\$20,801.00);

• MOTION TO RECONSIDER FAILED (13-9-1) NCA 07-224, A

LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO CONSTRUCT A SANCTUARY FOR BUTLER CREEK INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

VOTING NO WERE: **ANTHONY NOTARO, LENA WIND, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, RONALD CLEGHORN AND PAULA WILLITS**.

ABSTAIN WAS **ROBERT JONES**.

SEPTEMBER 5, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT WERE: **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS EXCUSED, **LENA WIND, KEEPER JOHNSON, SHIRLENE ADE, LARRY BIBLE, PAULA WILLITS AND RICHARD BERRYHILL**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO OPINION AND ORDER OF CITATION FOR CONTEMPT;

• APPROVED (19-0-0) TO IMPLEMENT A CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE FOR PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ONLY TO STUDY THE CONSTITUTION AND TO COME BACK TO THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE WITH A REPORT AND THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL EIGHT (8) DISTRICTS;

• APPROVED (18-1-0) TO ALLOW THE SPEAKER TO WORK THROUGH THE CONSULTANT CONCERNING A RESPONSE TO THE SUPREME COURT ORDER AND ALL NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND PRESS CONFERENCE AT 1:00 P.M.

VOTING NO WAS **JAMES JENNINGS**.

SEPTEMBER 18, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT WERE: **ROGER BARNETT AND RON CLEGHORN** WAS EXCUSED;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION ON FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET.

SEPTEMBER 20, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT WERE: **TOM PICKERING, SHIRLENE ADE AND LARRY BIBLE**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-257, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING NCA 06-257 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-205 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET WITH EXCLUSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• APPROVED (21-0-1) NCA 07-259, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

ABSTAIN WAS **ROGER BARNETT**.

BUSINESS/GAMING

Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Nicholas Howk

CREEK NATION
Casino

Tulsa • 81st & Riverside
www.creeknationcasino.com

Progress Being Made

In the short time from last months update, several tasks have been taking place at the new casino. There has been quite a bit more steel erected, the pouring of concrete in the office area is complete, installing membrane roofing has begun, drive ramp footings have been placed, steel and decking have been placed, approximately 25 percent of the underground parking garage concrete has been poured, drywall is going up in the mesanine area, fireproofing is taking place and the metal exterior of the building is being installed. In efforts to keep progress moving, concrete placement is still ongoing with crews working six to seven days a week.

MNN/Nicholas Howk

MNBE Technology Services

Competing, Thriving and Progressing



MNN/Nicholas Howk

BJ Waggnor, Wes Baker, Keeper Johnson and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis were seen at Mr. Bakers home while MNBE installed the Medical Alert System. The sytems installation only took a few minutes, but will make Mr. Baker rest a little easier at night. There are plans for about 250 of these types of systems to be installed in citizens homes. Currently there have been 25 systems installed and MNBE staff are eager to get the remainder complete.

by Nicholas Howk

MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE – Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has been known in the past for it's Government contracts. MNBE also has a division of technology services.

For the past few months, MNBE Technology Services has shown to be a competitor in the main stream of society. They have been bidding on jobs and competing with national businesses and winning. The technology division of MNBE has shown to be a front-runner in the business world.

This division has many projects going that are helping not only Creek citizens, but also many other organizations such as OSU Tulsa, OSU Stillwater and many more.

In August, MNBE installed the first of several Medical Alert Systems in Wes Bakers home. The system that was installed consisted of a receiver box, pendants for the citizen to wear and smoke alarms connected to the receiver.

These types of Medical Alert Systems allow the elderly citizens to have the ability to feel more comforted while they are home alone. The system is designed to be an alert if the citizen were to get hurt or to be engaged in any other kind of emergency. If something were to go wrong, all the citizen would have to do is press a button on their pendant and a call would be placed to Lighthorse Tribal Police.

These systems were originally put out to bid, but shortly after National Council Representative Keeper Johnson realized MNBE could do this type of job, he immediately told the other companies that MNBE was going to do the job. With Lighthorse Tribal Police monitoring the systems, thousands of dollars in monthly recurring cost are being saved by the Tribe.

In addition to the Medical Alert Systems, MNBE is becoming a front-runner in the business of security systems. On October 3, MNBE staff and members of the Board took a trip to Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. MNBE is currently installing a complex system that will allow the OSU police to monitor Boone Pickens Stadium in a way they haven't before.

MNBE would like people to understand that Creek Nation people are doing these projects for tribal citizens, public schools and major universities.

The project at OSU-Stillwater was funded by homeland security dollars and MNBE had to bid against six or seven other companies in order to get job. This job uses General Electric specifications, which is great for MNBE because they are one of only 300 GE strategic partners in the United States.

Several times throughout the year they have had several contracts renewed. A lot of this falls on the great job MNBE does in staffing their positions. MNBE wants people to know that most of their staff members are Creek and want people to understand and see the staff at MNBE are doing a little bit of everything.

Though many may think that MNBE Technology Services would be involved with government contracts, the truth is that none of the contracts come through the government. MNBE bids on all of the jobs that they receive. As mentioned before, most of the work that MNBE does is for Native American Tribes, universities and public schools.

Not only does MNBE Technology Services do work for all of the Creek Casinos, but also with the Sac & Fox and Kaw Nations.

MNBE is continuing to compete, thrive and succeed in the mainstream business world and have plans to continue the outstanding work they have been doing.

MCN Complex gets new ATM machine



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Pictured above is MCN Tribal Cashier Crystal Aikins. Crystal was seen trying out the new ATM machine that was installed outside the giftshop in the main building of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex.

New Business Center Will Help Establish and Grow Minority Enterprises

TULSA – Oklahoma's new Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) will be based in Tulsa, OK and will provide assistance to minority-owned businesses across the state.

Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REI) was awarded a grant by the Minority Business Development Agency, U. S. Department of Commerce to establish the Center in Oklahoma to provide business assistance to Native Americans and other minority enterprises with a focus on procurement of government contracts.

NABEC services will include client assessment, identifying the client's immediate and long-term needs. Business consulting services include one-on-one consulting and group consulting through seminars and training on relevant business topics. The Center will also assist clients in securing financial capital and access to markets.

"It was great news to learn about REI's award to establish a Native American Business Enterprise Center in Oklahoma to serve all of our minority entrepreneurs and enterprises," Senator James Inhofe said. "The Center will be especially helpful to minority businesses in the procurement of

government contracts and that's exciting because it will propel them into new markets and foster their growth."

REI will utilize its statewide network of partnerships to deliver services of the NABEC, allowing minority entrepreneurs to receive assistance regardless of their location. Services will be offered to start-up businesses as well as established businesses wishing to expand their markets, services and products.

"We appreciate the support of Senator Inhofe and the commitment of our partners to ensure that minority entrepreneurs will receive the assistance they need and deserve," Tom Seth Smith, REI President & CEO said. "The services of the Center will also complement what we already do in providing financial and business development assistance to entrepreneurs across the state."

The Center will be located at Memorial Place Center, 7633 East 63rd Street, Tulsa. For more information, contact Kenny Simpson at 800-658-2823.

REI is an economic development firm with offices in Durant, Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Alva. For more information about the organization log on to www.ruralenterprises.com



MNN/Nicholas Howk

When MNBE hires staff, they try to consider Creek citizens that can be trained in the areas needed. Pictured above are; Rojer Johnson, left and Eugene Kahbeah. These two creek men are installing surveillance systems throughout Boone Pickens Stadium in Stillwater.



MNN/Nicholas Howk

For the first time, members of the MNBE Board were able to take a look at one of the jobsites. On October 3, 2007, BJ Waggnor, Dr. Mike Hughes, David Dickey, John Freeman, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Woody Anderson, Mike Huggard and Richard Atkins of the OSU Police Department. These men spent the good part of a day taking a tour through the stadium looking at the newly installed security system and admiring how great of a job MNBE had done on the project.

Entries Being Accepted for Statewide New Product and Process Fair

TULSA – It's been going on for over 20 years, but this year the Wes Watkins New Product and Process Fair is going statewide. The Fair challenges the creativity and inventive spirit of Oklahoma entrepreneurs young and old alike.

The Statewide New Product and Process Fair will be held December 7 at the Wes Watkins Center on the campus of Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. The top 300 entrants will be invited to display their prototypes and compete for cash prizes totaling \$11,700.

There are six divisions of competition: Elementary Student, grades 3-6; Secondary Student, grades 7-12; the Adult Student Division is designated for persons enrolled as an adult student at an Oklahoma Technology Center; Collegiate Student Division applies to college students at either undergraduate or graduate status; the Small Business Division is for businesses currently producing products or processes in the marketplace and the Open Class is for entrants not qualifying in the other divisions.

Entries in each division will be judged on innovation, presentation and commercialization potential.

"I'm honored and pleased to have the Fair carry my name, but I'm even more thrilled to see the continuing success of it each year and now be able to expand it statewide," said Fair founder and former U.S. Congressman, Wes Watkins. "Our country's rich history and prosperity has been spurred by the inventions and ideas from individuals just like you," he said in his message to prospective Fair competitors. He also said participants may enter as many different ideas as they want, regardless of the stage of development of their new product or process idea.

New Product and Process Fair sponsors are Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology and Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc.

Official rules, instructions and on-line application are available at www.okcareertech.org/teched/. Entry deadline is October 15, 2007, no later than 11:59 p.m. CDT.

HEALTH

From the Desk of the CEO

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Submitted by Judy Aaron, Chief Executive Officer

OKMULGEE — The Health System Board has begun an initiative to develop a strategic plan for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. An in depth interview process will happen to gather information about the needs of programs, identify trends in the health care needs of the patients served and to search out opportunities to improve the services provided to patients/clients of the Health System Programs. Input will be gathered at each location, the Health System Board level, the National Council and the Office of the Principal Chief. In discussions with each level of the Health System, and the branches of the Tribal government the overriding goal is the same: Moving forward with our health system to meet the needs of our patients. The entire process will take approximately six to eight months but will be a baseline plan to be updated each year to maintain a planned, systematic approach to providing health care.

A portion of the strategic plan will also assist in our staff being able to identify intermediate goals to begin working on while we develop long-range planning. You may see some changes occur in our facilities as we deal with the is-

sue of lack of space. A spacing analysis is being conducted of the Okmulgee Indian Health Center to identify how we may establish a different work flow



Judy Aaron

to maximize use of existing space and identifying various options to meet the current patient volume. The goal of the analysis is to make access easier for the patient, and to also identify space to add more physician staff to meet the current workload.

A second aspect of the spacing analysis is to address our issue of walk-in volume at the Okmulgee Indian Health Center. The physicians have

offered excellent ideas on how to work toward meeting these needs, and Administration is in the process of looking at how to implement some new ways of access for the patient to the clinic. Our hope is to find solutions currently until we can obtain funding to build a new health facility. We apologize for any inconvenience the patients may have faced in the past month, but our Okmulgee Indian Health Center has been overwhelmed by the volume of patients.

As we enter into the month of October, just a reminder from the Okmulgee Health Center and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System: the Annual Pink Party will be October 17, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Mound Building located at the Tribal Complex. The Okmulgee Health Center was able to apply for a Spirit of the Eagles grant this year to assist with the event. This event is a wonderful celebration of our Native Women who have battled Breast Cancer and won, a remembrance of those we have lost and encouragement to all Native women through awareness and preventive education. We hope you can join us!

DOCTOR's NOTE

Breast Care Awareness

Submitted by Zach Anderson MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer

OKMULGEE — This month is National Breast Cancer Awareness month, therefore, it is fitting for the Muscogee (Creek) Health System to share the importance of routine breast exams and mammography screening to help address and reduce the incidence of this devastating disease.

This year in America, more than 211,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 43,300 will die. If detected early, the five-year survival rate exceeds 95%. Mammograms are among the best early detection methods, yet 13 million U.S. women 40 years of age or older have never had a mammogram.

Breast cancer is the most common malignancy in women and the second leading cause of cancer death (exceeded by lung cancer in 1985). Breast cancer is three times more common than all gynecologic malignancies put together. The incidence of breast cancer has been increasing steadily from an incidence of 1 in 20 in 1960 to 1 in 7 women today. Breast cancer is truly an epidemic among women and we don't know why.

Breast cancer is not exclusively a disease of women. For every 100 women with breast cancer, one male will develop the disease.

The American Cancer society estimates that 1,600 men will develop the disease this year. The evaluation of men with breast masses is similar to that in women, including mammography.

The incidence of breast cancer is very low in the twenties (age) gradually increases and plateaus at the age of forty-five and increases dramatically after fifty. Fifty percent of breast cancer is diagnosed in women over sixty-five indicating the ongoing necessity of yearly screening throughout a woman's life. While women who have a family history of breast cancer are in

a higher risk group, most women who have breast cancer have no family history. If you have a mother, daughter, sister or grandmother who had breast cancer, you should have a mammogram five years before the age of their diagnosis.



Zack Anderson

An Early Breast Cancer Detection Plan should include:

- Clinical breast examinations every three years from ages 20-39, then every year thereafter.
- Monthly breast self-examinations beginning at age 20. Look for any changes in your breasts.
- Baseline mammogram by the age of 40.
- Mammogram every one to two years for women 40-49, depending on previous findings.
- Mammogram every year for women 50 and older.
- A personal calendar to record your self-exams, mammograms and doctor appointments.
- A low-fat diet, regular exercise, and no smoking or drinking

Risk factors for breast cancer:

- Early onset of menses and late menopause.
 - Diets high in saturated fat.
 - Family history of breast cancer.
 - Late or no pregnancies.
 - Moderate alcohol intake:
 - Estrogen replacement therapy.
 - History of prior breast cancer.
 - Female.
 - Therapeutic irradiation to chest wall i.e., for Hodgkins Disease (cancer of lymph nodes).
 - Moderate obesity.
- When breast cancer is found early, the five-year survival rate is 96%. This is good news! Over 2 million breast cancer survivors are alive in America today.
- Seventy percent of all breast cancers are found through breast self-exams. Not all lumps are detectable by touch. Eight out of ten lumps are benign, or not cancerous. If you discover a persistent lump in your breast or any changes in breast tissue, it is very important that you see a physician immediately. Many times fear keeps women from aggressive health care. Sometimes women stay away from medical care because they fear what they might find. Take charge of your own health by monthly self-exams, regular visits to the doctor and regularly scheduled mammograms. Mammography is a low-dose X-ray examination that can detect breast cancer up to two years before it is large enough to be felt. Do not let tales of other people's experiences keep you from having a mammogram. Base your decision on your physician's recommendation and ask the physician any questions you may have about the mammogram. Breast cancer is a serious problem within our population; therefore, it is imperative to keep your scheduled women exams and mammograms to decrease the incidence within the Native American population. Once again, Mvto, for allowing the MCNHS to share this information with you.

MCN Walking Program: "Nene Hvkoce" Walking Trails Program

OKMULGEE — The MCN "Nene Hvkoce" Walking program is set to start signing up participants for this year's program. Last year, many participants walked their way to better health, incentives, Nike shoes, Nike wind suits, treadmills and community walking paths. The Walking program is provided by the MCN Diabetes program with the Exercise Manager in each clinic responsible for managing the program in their area.

Flyers announcing the program were sent out in September to each Indian Community center to announce information about the program and request dates for program sign-ups. If you would like to sign up for this years walking program:

- Contact your local Indian Community and have them schedule a night after Oct. 5th to hold a program sign-up.

- Your community must have 10 people wanting to join the program to hold a sign-up.



- The sign-up should be held on a different night than the community monthly meeting.
- Participants must be Native American and age 12 or above.
- This year, Non-Indian spouses of program participants can join and Non-Indian parents or guardians of Indian children participants are eligible to join.

- The program will begin on Nov. 1 and the cut-off date for joining the program is Jan. 1.

If you have questions or would like to schedule a sign-up, call the Diabetes Program Exercise Manager in your clinic area:

- Okemah Area – Scott Robison, (800) 219-9458 ext. 458 or (918) 695-1325;
- Eufaula Area – Kimberlee Little, (918) 689-2547 ext. 257 or (918) 637-9684;
- Sapulpa Area – William Fixico, (918) 224-9310 ext. 238 or (918) 637-9683;
- Koweta Area – Dewayne Tiger, (918) 279-3392 or (918) 807-1561; or
- Okmulgee Area – Irene Culley, (918) 758-1928 ext. 334 or (918) 636-8735.

HEALTHNOTES

Diabetes and Dental Complications: Making the Connection

Oral Complications of Diabetes

Gum (periodontal) disease is sometimes called the sixth complication of diabetes, along with nerve damage, kidney damage, vision problems and damage to large and small blood vessels. High blood glucose makes you more likely to have gum disease, gingivitis, dry mouth, dental caries (cavities), yeast infection or poor wound healing. With your dentist's help and daily oral care, you can avoid these diabetes-related problems.

Gingivitis and Periodontal Disease

The earliest stage of gum disease (called Gingivitis) is a swelling of the gums. The direct cause of gingivitis is plaque, the soft, sticky, colorless film of bacteria that forms constantly on the teeth and gums. Classic symptoms of gingivitis include red, swollen, tender gums that may bleed when brushed. If gingivitis is not treated, it can and often will progress to periodontal disease. Some people may experience recurring bad breath or a bad taste in their mouth, even if the gum disease is not advanced. Untreated, gum disease can lead to destruction of gum tissues and bone loss around the teeth, so it is important to get treatment at the first signs of gum problems.

For people with diabetes, gum disease is treated by removing the plaque to eliminate the infection and reduce gum swelling and by keeping your blood glucose in range. The American Dental Association recommends brushing at least twice a day, plus daily flossing. Replace your toothbrush every three to four months. Schedule a dental cleaning every six months.

Dry Mouth and Tooth Decay

Diabetes can cause the salivary glands to produce less saliva, causing dry mouth. People with dry mouth often complain of problems with eating, speaking, swallowing and wearing dentures. In addition, people with diabetes may experience more tooth decay. The decay can progress quickly depending on the severity of the dry mouth. Untreated tooth decay can lead to nerve damage and tooth loss if not treated promptly.

Denture wearers may have problems keeping the dentures in place and may experience denture sores and the tongue sticking to the roof of the mouth. People with dry mouth often complain of taste disorders, a painful tongue and increased thirst, especially at night. Treatments for dry mouth include saliva substitutes, stimulants and fluoride to prevent decay.

What You Can Do

Diabetes makes you more likely to develop a variety of oral complications. To maintain healthy gums and teeth, follow these steps:

- Keep your blood glucose in target. This is probably the single most important thing you can do to maintain good oral health.
- Get routine dental check-ups every six months or more often if recommended by your dentist.
- If you notice a change in your mouth, gums or teeth, tell your doctor or dentist. It may be related to your diabetes.
- See your dentist as soon as possible if you have sore, swollen or bleeding gums, loose teeth, mouth ulcers or pain in the mouth.
- Examine your mouth regularly to spot problems early.

Just a few minutes a day caring for your gums and teeth will help you keep a healthy, beautiful smile and help your whole body stay healthier.

A Word from the Dietitian

By Melissa Scheef, RD/LD, Sapulpa Clinic

SAPULPA — Many Americans will develop hypertension (high blood pressure) during their lifetime. The doctor will often prescribe a blood pressure medication, weight reduction of at least 10-20 pounds, walking exercise and the dreaded low salt diet! The word "diet" whether it means weight loss or lowering your salt (sodium) intake is a "four-letter word" to most of us. Reducing your salt intake doesn't have to be painful however.

Most registered dietitians (RD's) recommend lowering your salt intake by not adding extra salt to your food and by checking the food label for sodium content per serving. The US Dietary Guidelines suggest that most healthy adults limit their total day's sodium intake to less than 2300 mg—one level teaspoon. Since many of us eat out or buy packaged foods for meals and snacks, we are already getting extra sodium beyond what is in the food naturally.

Where does sodium come from? Over three quarters of the sodium we eat daily comes from processed foods! Here's how it breaks down:

- Salt added to food by the manufacturer: 77%
- Naturally occurring salt in a food: 12%
- Salt added at the table: 6%
- Salt added during cooking: 5%

A processed food is one that has been changed to make it more convenient for the consumer. Processing might include cooking, smoking, baking, frying, freezing, canning or drying a food. Because we Americans want our food to look and taste wholesome, manufacturers use preservatives to protect the food from spoilage or preserve its color or nutrient content. Many of the preservatives contain sodium in some form. The table below shows the sodium levels of foods we find at the supermarket.

Food Groups	Serving Size	Sodium Content (mg)
Breads, all types	1 oz. (about 1 med. slice)	95-210
Frozen pizza, plain, cheese	4 oz. (about 2 slices)	450-1200
Frozen vegetables, all types	1/2 cup	2-160
Salad dressing, regular fat	2 Tbsp.	110-505
Salsa	2 Tbsp.	150-240
Soup (tomato), prepared	8 oz. (1 cup)	700-1260
Tomato juice	8 oz. (1 cup)	340-1040
Potato chips, regular	1 oz. about 15 chips	120-180
Tortilla chips, regular	1 oz. about 16-18 chips	105-160
Pretzels, regular	1 oz. (varies with pretzel size)	290-560

Vculvke PRIDE (Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday)

OKMULGEE — Vculvke PRIDE will be presented at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Elderly Nutrition Centers in Okemah, Wetumka, Dewar, Bristow and Eufaula beginning in October. The program is designed to increase diabetes awareness in Native American Elders through education and fun activities. The program consists of 16 sessions on diabetes prevention, exercise, nutrition and much more. Participants receive a monthly incentive for attending two sessions each month. Participants who attend at least 10 of the 16 sessions are eligible for the grand prize drawing. The center with the highest percentage of participants completing the program earns a trip.

Last year the program was presented at Okmulgee, Sapulpa, Koweta, Muscogee and Holdenville. Koweta had 50% of their participants complete the program and won the trip. They are still deciding where they would like to go.

For more information, call Irene Culley, Okmulgee Diabetes Exercise Programs Manager at (918) 758-1928, ext. 334.



PROGRAMS/NOTICES

PROGRAMSNOTICES

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Security Assistance Program

OKMULGEE — The Social Security Assistance Program has been established by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to ensure Tribal citizens receive the assistance necessary in the receipt of Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid benefits for themselves, their spouses or their dependent children, whichever is applicable.

The Social Security Assistance Program is administered under the Social Services Department of the Nation. The staff includes: Liaison Coordinator-Neenah Emarthle, Secretary-Jason Harley, and part-time Intake Specialist-Amber Isaac. Each is available to answer any inquiries and to provide all necessary assistance in filing for benefits.

The services offered by the Program include, but is not limited to: scheduling and attending the initial interview with Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid; transportation to appointments scheduled by Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid; assistance with completing and submitting documentation required, gathering of pertinent documents and requesting and assisting with any appeal process.

Since the Program began seeing clients in January of 2006, 131 Tribal Citizens have requested assistance. Of the 131, 98 have been assisted with 20 Tribal citizens being awarded benefits. An estimate of the total amounts of monthly benefits and back payments collected for Tribal Citizens is \$64,100.

The Social Security Assistance Program is located within the Social Services Building at: 408 W. 66th Street on the 2nd Floor. Office Hours are from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Appointments may be scheduled by calling (918) 759-2334 or as a walk-in. Appointments may also be scheduled outside of office hours if needed.

5th annual one-mile Buddy Walk

TULSA — The Down Syndrome

Association of Tulsa (DSAT), the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) and the Down syndrome community invite the public to celebrate National Down Syndrome Awareness Month this October.

“People with Down Syndrome, like everyone else, are people first, each with their own unique gifts to contribute to their families, friends and communities,” NDSS president Alan P. Brownstein said. “Down Syndrome Awareness Month provides a forum for dispelling stereotypes, providing accurate information, and raising awareness of the potential of individuals with Down syndrome.

This October, DSAT will hold the 5th annual one-mile Buddy Walk in celebration of Down Syndrome Awareness Month. The walk will be held on Sunday, October 21, 2007, at the Track at Union High School in Tulsa from 2-4 pm. Individuals with Down Syndrome invite their “buddies” to walk with them to show their support and to help promote awareness and inclusion of individuals with Down syndrome.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen, Tafv Quiett was born on March 18, 1994 with Down Syndrome. Today she is healthy and active in the Tulsa Creek Indian Community youth programs, TOPSoccer, and she enjoys attending stomp dances and pow-wows. Tafv is a 7th grader at Jenks West Middle School and the big sister to E'tya, Russell and Ridge.

The Tulsa Creek Indian Community proudly supports their own Tafv Quiett as she invites her “buddies” to join in her walk. Tafv is raising funds for the Down Syndrome Association of Tulsa and you can help by contributing on -line at www.firstgiving.com.dsat and look for Tafv’s Team or you can mail contributions to Tafv’s mom (Cherrah Quiett) at 2966 W. 66th Street Tulsa, OK 74132 (make checks payable to DSAT).

For more information please call Cherah Quiett at (918) 445-4947 or tulsacreek@aol.com Myto!

3rd Annual Youth Speak- Out

OKMULGEE — BE LOUD, BE

PROUD, SPEAK OUT! The Muscogee Nation Partnership Board would like to announce the 3rd annual native youth speakout. The speak out will be held October 24. from 10am to 1pm at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building. Registration deadline is Oct. 12. For More information contact 918-759-2334.

TCIC to Hold Halloween Party

TULSA — The Tulsa Creek Indian Community would like to invite you and your family to a olé’ fashion Halloween party. It will be held Oct. 30, at 6:30 pm. They will have a chili contest, bingo, costume contest, cake contest and pumpkin carving contest for the adults. For the children they will have apple bobbing, costume contest, cake walk, fishing and bean bag toss. Concession will also be available. For more information contact TCIC at 918-298-2464.

Jones “Male” Academy Reunion

HARTSHORNE — The Jones “Male” Academy is having their annual reunion Saturday, October 20, starting at 10 am at Jones Academy in Hartshorne with Registration starting at 10 am in the school gymnasium , wife or escort are welcome. Meals will be served in the school cafeteria; lunch will be at 12:30, and Dinner at 5:30. There will be a gospel singing at 7 pm. All guest for the singing are invited to eat dinner with the alumni at 5:30. Make your plans to be with us they hope to see you there.

Head Start to host Annual Parent Training

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Annual Parent Training Friday October 26, from 9 am to 3 p.m. at the Green County Technology Center. Registration and Welcome 8:30-8:45 in the Seminar Room A/B/C. Free Lunch, Free Health Screenings, and Door Prizes. Come and join the fun, learn how to make crafts, fun exercises to stay fit , drug prevention, alternatives for Discipline, fire and home safety, home buying ideas, stretching your money, making healthy choices and much more.

HOUSINGSERVICES

Creek Home Owners beware of deceptive home repair practices

OKMULGEE — A recent incident has brought to light the need to be aware of persons posing as home repair contractors, convincing homeowners that their homes are in need of repairs and then not returning after a partial payment has been made for the work.

A Creek citizen homeowner was tricked into giving a person two hundred dollars as a down payment on one thousand dollars worth of unneeded repairs. After giving the man a check for the down payment the elderly home owner later informed her daughter about the transaction which promptly made the daughter suspicious. The daughter later called law officials and found out that this person was a part of group that had ran this type of rip-off on unsuspecting home owners throughout this part of Oklahoma.

Even if the work had been done on the house, first, more than likely

the house didn’t need repairs since the house was less than two years old, and second, the house was built through a Housing Modernization Program, which in this case was still covered by warranty making Housing responsible for repairs.

Robert Lay, Creek Housing inspector, said any Home Owners who received their homes through any of the Creek Housing Programs needs to check with Housing before making major repairs if their home is still relatively new or if they are still making payments to Housing.

“All home owners should be aware of this type of practice and before giving anyone money to work on your home you need to make sure this person is reputable,” said Lay. “Be especially careful if you are approached about having work done on your house without your notifying anyone that you wanted the work done.”



Pictured above: Construction of the final four Elderly Housing duplexes are beginning to take shape with the safe rooms being one of the first stages of construction. All the apartments at the housing addition feature storm proof safe rooms, are furnished with all major appliance including washer/dryer and dishwasher, and are completely handicap accessible.

“Frybread Throwdown” held at Koweta Indian Community

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

KOWETA — On August 18, nine Native American youth arrived at the Koweta Indian Community to try to win their share of \$600. The event was a “Frybread Throwdown”. The event was to encourage Native American youth to participate in activities that have a positive influence on their lives. One interesting detail about this competition is that is was not limited to only Muscogee (Creek) citizens, but was open to any youth age 12 to 17 that is a member of a federally recognized tribe.

The throwdown was held outside the community center building under tents that had been set up for individual cook stations. Each cook that participated in the competition was required to follow a few rules and guidelines, which included: each applicant had to present their enrollment card, each applicant was required to have their own chaperon, over the age of 18, to only advise the applicant, applicants had to provide their own skillet and any other cooking equipment need to make their frybread, applicants had to provide all ingredients, which were not allow to be premixed.

The cook-off was scheduled to begin at 10 am, but because of problems with the wind blowing out some flames on the cooks burners, the competition was delayed for about 30 minutes. During the time when the wind issue was being dealt with, the cooks were allowed to practice cooking their frybread and test out the temperature of their grease.

The contestants were required

to submit three frybreads to the Judges table by 11:30. Each cook had to place their frybread on a paper plate with their contestant number on the bottom. While following the rules of the competition, the cooks had to keep in

so only each contest knew what plate was theirs. While the assigning of numbers was taking place, the judges were escorted into a private room so that no biased opinions could be made while the contestants were placing their plates on the judging table.

Finally, it was time for the judging. The judges who were: Lucille Miller, Wilbur Gouge and the MCN’s own Nicholas Howk, took their time in evaluating each and every pieced of frybread on the table. By the time the judging was complete, each judge had tasted 27 pieces of frybread. During the tallying of the results, Indian tacos were served and entertainment was provided by Thompson Gouge, Jr.

After a time of fellowship with friends and family it was now the moment that everyone had been waiting for. The results had been counted and the winners were ready to be announced. Each cook was called to the front of the room as the results were read.

Third place and a winner of \$100 was Kendell Hildreth of Coweta, Second place and a winner of \$200 was John Walton of Coweta, and taking home \$300 was the First place Frybread cook Kalynn Hildreth of Coweta.

The event had a great turnout and was fun for everyone that was involved. Congradulations to all of the contestants that participated in the contest. Hopefully this years competition was such a success that this event will become something that takes place annually.



Pictured above, from left to right, are the Frybread Throwdown champions; Kendall Hildreth, John Walton and Kalynn Hildreth.

MNN/Nicholas Howk

mind a few criteria that the judges were looking for. The Judges looked at each plate and checked for: Color; all three frybread had to be th same color on the top and on the bottom, Size; All three frybreads had to be the same size on the plate, Texture; was the frybread flat, fluffy, hard, soft, greasy and was it fully cooked on the inside, Taste; was it good, gooder or goodiest, (and how greasy did the judges lips get). Each judge was given score sheets that allow them to rank each frybread from 1 to 10, with 10 being the best.

The mood was light and relaxed during the practice, but when the time came for the real competition to begin, the atmosphere changed a bit as each cook began to get serious about cooking their frybread. After each contestant finished cooking, they had to draw a random number, which then became their contestant number. This number was written on the bottom of their plate

Helping our Tribal Citizens Realize the Dream of Homeownership

Providing help through the Mortgage Assistance Program

Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan. The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DIVISION OF HOUSING

- To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).
- Be a first time home buyer.
 - Live within the state of Oklahoma.
 - Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
 - Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
 - Be 18 years or older.
 - Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
 - Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
 - Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
 - Preference given to Creek Citizens.
- Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

EDUCATION

Red Fork Native American Film Festival

TULSA- Tulsa Community College (TCC), located at 7505 West 41st Street in Tulsa will host the Ninth Annual Red Fork Native American Film Festival. The festival will run two consecutive weekends-Thursday, October 18, Friday, 19,

Saturday, 20 and Wednesday, October 26, Thursday, October 25, Friday, 26 and Saturday, 27.

The goal is to promote and bring Native American films and documentaries that are not always seen here," said Gerald Wofford, who along with Steven Woods is a co-coordinator of the longest running Native American Film Festival in the State of Oklahoma. "We decided this year to expand the festival to two more days," said Wofford, "there are a lot of good Native American films out there so we wanted to bring in as many as we can. Steven and his staff at Tulsa Community College do such

a great job in hosting the event and we find that people do enjoy watching the films. They see that there are great Native American films and documentaries on a grand scale as well new and upcoming work from new Directors and Actors."

Free Indian Tacos will be served on Friday, October 19 evening beginning at 6:00. Meals will also be served on Friday, October 26 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, October 27 at 5:30 p.m. All events are free and open to the public, although donations toward next year's festival and a scholarship fund will be appreciated at the door. The festival is held in conjunction with: the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, Tulsa Community College Native American Studies Program, and with assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council.



HELPTIPS

TIPS FOR NATIVE YOUTH

Culturally healthy youth take an active interest in learning their heritage and assume responsibility for their role as contributing members of the family and community in which they live.

- Learn all you can about your family, kinship relations, and community history and cultural heritage.
- Participate in traditional activities with parents, elders, and other members of the community, and learn the stories and lessons associated with those activities.
- Become actively involved in local activities and organizations that contribute to the quality of life in your community.
- Show respect to the elders in your community by assisting them in any way you can.
- Get involved in local, regional, state, and national issues and organizations that impact your community.
- Make healthy choices in your lifestyle that contribute to the wholeness and well being of yourself and those around you.
- Always be a good role model, show respect, and provide support to others.
- Participate in apprenticeships with cultural experts in the community and acquire traditional conflict resolution skills.
- Associate with friends who can provide healthy role models that will make a positive contribution to your growth, development, and education toward adulthood.

Adopted by Assembly of Alaska Native Educators, Anchorage, Alaska, February 2001

TIPS FOR NATIVE PARENTS

- Parents are the first teachers of their children and provide the foundation on which the social, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual well being of future generations.
- Provide a loving, healthy, and supportive environment for each child to grow and achieve their fullest potential from prenatal to adulthood.
- Participate as a family and encourage children to become actively involved in Cultural activities and learn the traditional values of the community.
- Set aside time each day or week for family oriented activities including extended family members whenever possible.
- Make arrangements to accompany your child through part or all of a school day at least once per semester or quarter to gain an understanding of what they are doing in school.
- Volunteer to participate in activities that help make the schooling experiences of each child an extension of home and community life.
- Assist children in learning and using their heritage language and understanding their family history and what shapes their identity.
- Serve as positive role model and mentor for children by practicing and reinforcing traditional values and appropriate behaviors.

Debate

continued from A1

Q: Describe your journey in debate throughout college.

A: My introduction to college debate was a little bit like being thrown in the deep end and told to swim. As mentioned, I had no experience with this style of debate. Jackie -- my coach --, however, felt like I was and so refused to enter me in the Novice division, deciding instead that I would be in JV. My partner Billy was amazingly talented and helpful. Owning primarily to him, we were quickly successful winning first place at our first three tournaments -- and I learned an enormous amount about the activity. After that year, Conor, who was sure to be the best on the team next year, chose me to be his partner. Our first year was full of excitement but also a lot of frustration. More than anything, we grew closer to one another on a personal and professional level. By the 2nd and 3rd year we had debated together, we had a sort of mind-meld. Our success was probably a result of the chemistry that developed between us. I'd like to think that he developed an enormous amount as my partner. I know I did as his.

Q: Talk about what debate really is.

A: Debate is a community comprised of some of the smartest individuals in American colleges and universities. On almost any given weekend these people are meeting at one or another college

campus to hold tournament-style competitive, highly specialized debates about American domestic and foreign policy, philosophy, often even debate itself. Evenings are spent at "tournament hotel" bars and in rooms. They usually involve a lot of fraternizing, typical twenty-somethings' debauchery, and lots of arguing about things big and small. We like to think that debate is home to some of the country's brightest young minds. You'd be amazed to know how many famous public personalities, politicians, etc. credit their involvement in debate with their success.

Q: What was the most important debate you ever participated in?

A: Probably the finals round of CEDA Nationals. The National Title was on the line. Our opponents were amazingly talented. We were hosting the tournament at OU, meaning we had a lot of supporters there watching us. The panel of judges was enormous -- eleven people selected by region. And we were being broadcast live over the net. I remember it being pretty nerve-racking. It took several days for it to sink in that we had won that debate. We could call ourselves national champions.

Q: What are you currently doing in your life?

A: I'm coaching debate at OU as well as for Kinkaid High School in Houston while I finish up my BA.

Q: What are your plans for the future?

EDUCATIONUPDATES

College of the Muscogee Nation receives \$2500 scholarship from Trail of Tears bikers



Nicholas Howk/MNN

Pictured above is Dr. Coser with the College of the Muscogee Nation and MCN Second Chief Alfred Berryhill. Second Chief Berryhill was seen presenting the College with the Trail of Tears scholarship, which was a \$2,500 scholarship.

OKMULGEE—This year a scholarship was given to the College of the Muscogee Nation in the amount of \$2500. The scholarship given was given by the Trail of Tears Corridor Association to provide a College of the Muscogee Nation student, someone who is enrolled full-time in of the degree

programs. There are two ways of apply for the scholarship. The CMN sends out information to the students that attend the the college and students can also visit. www.al-tn-trailoftears.org and look at scholarship information. This year is the second year the scholarship has been given. Last year the \$2500 was divided

up between three students, but the decision on how many students the scholarship will be given has not yet been decided this year. If you or someone you know are interested in the Trail of Tears Corridor Association scholarship, contact Angela Bunner at the College of the Muscogee Nation, 918-758-1480.

JOM held their first In-Service for the 07-08 School Year

OKMULGEE—In-Service is an event where training is offered to all of the JOM coordinators, IEC members, school leaders and others who are concerned with the Johnson-O'Malley program and its services.

The first In-Service for the new JOM school year started with a packed room at Green Country Tech School with numerous administrators, superintendents, principals, coordinators and IEC members in attendance. Present and representing Creek Nation were Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, Speaker Tiger, and Human Development Director, Louis Hicks. Chief Ellis and Speaker Tiger had a special session with the attending Superintendents and principals.

Ninety-eight percent of the schools had representation at the In-

Service and Dustin Public Schools and Eufaula Public Schools were presented as the honored Exemplary Schools for 2007 and given certificates. They will be given special recognition at the 2008 JOM Joint-Tribes Conference next spring in Tulsa.

In addition to workshops, on the agenda was Angela Bunner, College of the Muscogee Nation, who offered information about the college and a new plan to offer college credits to participants who attend the In-Service workshops. Also, Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum curator, gave a great presentation with posters and a video about the Muscogees, that will become a traveling presentation offered to the schools. Many of the schools scheduled the presentation and filled Mr. Isham's calendar for a few months.

The Muscogee Nation JOM program is trying to keep its programs encouraged and strong despite Congress' continued attempts to cut their funding (and did by 25% this year). Muscogee Nation JOM is grateful for positive encouragement from the leadership of this Nation to continue to help our students on their paths to success. It is meetings such as the In-Service, and others, that persist to equip the JOM programs with energy and information that make Muscogee Nation JOM program one of the best in the nation.

For information concerning JOM activities please call any of the JOM staff at 732-7843, Jeri Brandon; 732-7841, Mitch Jack; or 732-7839, Virginia Thomas, Manager.

OSU Native American High School Visitation Day

STILLWATER— The dates for the OSU Native American High School Visitation Day, hosted by the Oklahoma State University chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) and the Native American Student Association (NASA), has been set for November 17, 2007. High School Visitation Day is an opportunity for interested high school juniors and senior to spend a day on a college campus.

At high School Visitation Day, students will have many valuable op-

portunities which will introduce them to our college atmosphere, including : touring the campus of Oklahoma state, interacting with native american college students, attending workshops covering college admissions as well as other subject areas, visiting with the college administrators on campus, and meeting other high school juniors and seniors from around the Oklahoma area. The cost of the OSU Native American High School Visitation Day is a \$10 registration fee which needs to be in-

cluded with the registration forms.

(Checks need to be made out to OSU-Native American Student Association) The registration fee and the registration forms must be postmarked by Thursday November 1, 2007 and sent to: Multicultural Student Center, Native American Student Association, ATTN: Sasha Bighair or Brett Walker, 313 Student Union, Stillwater, OK 74077. If you have any question feel free to contact Robin Williams robin.starr.williams@okstate.edu or at (405)744-0401.

A: They tentatively involve law school. I think it might be fun some day be involved in electoral politics.

Q: How has debate impacted your life.

A: In more ways than I can describe. I'm confident when speaking in front of others -- imagine this, in an average college public speaking course, a student might be forced to give 4 to 5 speeches. In a single, weekend long debate tournament, I would give 20 to 30. I'm much knowledgeable -- debate requires constant research on current affairs, domestic and foreign. Beyond that, our particular approach to debate involved reading volumes and volumes of historic and contemporary philosophy. I can safely say that I learned more as a result of my experience in debate than any other academic endeavor. It has improved my critical thinking skills dramatically. I score higher on tests, write better papers, and perform better in any academic challenge. More than anything, though, debate has introduced me to amazing people all over the country. I love the friends that I get to regularly hang out with while traveling to great places. Most importantly, debate introduced me to Conor Cleary. 3 years ago he picked me to be his partner and I have never had a better friend.

Q: Talk about any other information that You think would be interesting to the readers

A: Debate is not just for nerds and politics junkies. Debate is home to some of the most radical and free thinking minds in the country. Debaters employ a variety of strategies: the performance of ancient eastern philosophy, freestyle rapping,

good old fashioned political fights, etc. One of the funniest parts about debate is that it is constantly evolving. Seeing how far in new directions you can take the activity is what makes it exciting. I am very proud of his Muskogee heritage. I have just finished my third semester of Creek language courses at the University of Oklahoma.

AFFORDABLE WEB DESIGNS

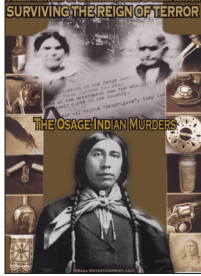
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FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo



Joy Harjo

We've had our elections and here we are again. May we move forward with inspiration and remember to honor the source of breath. And use our breath for good words as they make a path forward. Our words do create our road, singly and collectively. The manner in which we travel is determined by our attitude, by the attitude carried in our words. I am inspired and have been inspired by many as I travel about throughout this world. Sometimes inspiration is as simple as a stranger's smile when I'm dragging bags and I think I just can't get on another plane. Or it's dignity, like the dignity of this este -lucv or turtle person I met at the grounds during our new years celebration this summer. He was walking along headed in the direction of the creek when my grandchildren discovered him. He humored them once he found out they weren't brandishing sticks or rocks. We all gathered around to visit with him. I'm beginning to think that the worst thing imparted by western education and religion is the hierarchy of value as it pertains to all persons. As a child, and as someone who was raised up within the borders of the mind and dreams of the Creek Nation I knew este -lucv as someone walking about the earth as myself. We were the same size spiritually. This was the same with other creatures, like dog, deer or the birds that shared the air. And as I went about on the earth I came to know that the plants, stones and other elements occupy consciousness and space and have a dignity of as much weight as human-people have accorded themselves. When I went to public school in Tulsa, a very good public school with many of our tribal citizens, and began to spend more time in that system of books and thinking, I began to forget. Seeing este -lucv this summer with my grandchildren I terribly missed my older cousin John Jacobs of Holdenville. He always had such tenderness for the este -lucv citizens of our lands. Once

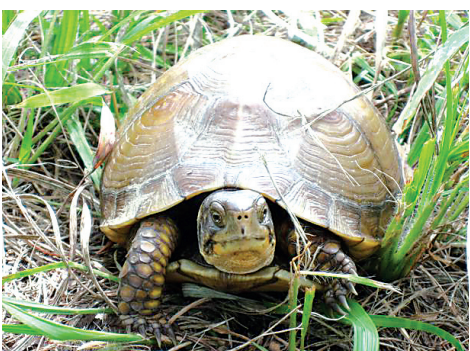


photo submitted

while traveling near his home we picked up a turtle who was about to get hit in the middle of the highway. The turtle's beaked mouth was stained with berry juice. I won't forget that spirit of vnokeckv as John lifted up the turtle, talked to him and carried him off the road. John Jacobs was one of my teachers of vnokeckv. Another teacher of vnokeckv is my Navajo son-in-law, Tim Chee. My daughter Rainy Dawn Ortiz wrote about him in her myspace blog: "My husband is always giving out change. He says all he expects in exchange is a little conversation. But sometimes this drives me crazy. We will be in a hurry at the gas station or at the store and its always a given that some one comes up to him to ask for change. He always asks them questions, and tells the ones he sees over and over again to go home, most of them Native. They used to come here to our house to ask for stuff. We are near a church that feeds the homeless so our house is a high foot traffic area. But after you help a few it becomes more and more, and soon we had a group of people hanging out on the side of our house waiting for him to come out. We have even had people knock on our door all hours of the night. So he had to tell them to stay away from our house. Its one of the reasons that I love him so much, because even if he has only a few dollars, he will give it away to some one who has less, as long as they stay around to talk to him. And that's the key. They have to talk to him, and answer his questions. It's a small price to pay, but for some its too much. Krista always laughs and says he'll talk to any one. So if you are out there and in need of some change, or even some conversation, you have your man but please don't get him started on floors, or the building of something, or cars please because I want to get home. P.S. he does this on the phone too!" Because it's four in the morning and I have to catch a plane to Oklahoma in a few hours, I will close with these wise words from a person whose being and words I have come to respect, Faithkeeper Oren Lyons of the Onondaga Nation: "I do not see a delegation for the four footed. I see no seat for the eagles. We forget and we consider ourselves superior. But we are after all a mere part of creation and we must consider to understand where we are. And we stand somewhere between the mountain and the ant. Somewhere and only there as part and parcel of the creation." Mvto Oren Lyons for reminding us of our humble place here. Mvto John Jacobs, Tim Chee, and este-lucv May we all continue to travel together well.

Sophia Alice Callahan

Sometimes people are born who are destined to for great things. Sophia Alice Callahan, was one such person. Born on New Year's Day in 1868 she was the daughter of Samuel Benton Callahan who was of the Muscogee tribe and Sarah Elizabeth Callahan. Her father, Samuel, was a captain in the First Creek Confederate Regiment and represented the Muscogee Nation at the Confederate Conference in Richmond, Va. He would later move his family to Indian Country and hold a variety of jobs including the editor of the Indian Journal and the superintendent of Weleaka Boarding School which was a Methodist boarding school for Muscogee children.



Sophia herself followed in her father's footsteps and spent a great deal of her life as an educator, teaching in Okmulgee by the year 1886, then moving on to attend the Wesleyan Female Institute in Staunton, Virginia. In 1891 she became a teacher at Harrell International Institute, which was a private Methodist high school for Indian country children of any race. She later went on to teach at the Wealaka Boarding School where her father was the superintendent. She moved on to teach at Harrell in 1893, with plans to eventually open her own school, but sadly though it was not meant to be. She became sick around Thanksgiving of that year and passed away on January 7, 1894. Yet, not only did she teach in a formal setting she also taught in another manner, through the power of the printed word. She published her ground breaking novel, Wynema in the spring of 1891. With it she became the first female Native American author as well as the first person to write a novel in Indian Territory. The novel, generally considered a woman's romance novel, brought to light many important and sometimes uncomfortable problems facing the Native American populace and did so in a forth right, open and unabashed way, starting with a statement showing her intent for the novel on the dedication page where she declares the book is dedicated: "To the Indian tribes of North America who have felt the wrongs and oppression of their pale-faced brother, I lovingly dedicate this work, praying that it may serve to open the eyes and heart of the world to our afflictions, and thus speedily issue into existence an era of good feeling and just dealing toward us and our more oppressed brothers." Wynema Dedication page. This continues throughout the entirety of the novel, never does it back off or take the easy way out. One item was the Christianizing of the Native Americans, which even today can still be hotly debated. An exert from her novel shows one of the view points she brought to light: ". . . You say if the United States army would kill a few thousand or so

of the dancing Indians there would be no more trouble. I judge by the above language that you are a Christian and are disposed to do all in your power to advance the cause of Christ. You are doubtless a worshiper of the white man's Saviour, but are unwilling that the Indians should have a Messiah of their own. The Indians have never taken kindly to the Christian religion as preached and practiced by the whites. Do you know why this is the case? Because the Good Father of all has given us a better religion - a religion that is all good and no bad - a religion that is adapted to our wants. You say if we are good, obey the ten commandments and never sin any more, we may be permitted eventually to sit upon a white rock and sing praises to God forevermore, and look down upon our heathenly fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers in hell. It won't do. The code of morals practiced by the white race will not compare with the morals of Indians. We pay no lawyers or preachers, but we have not one-tenth part of the crime that you do. If our Messiah does come, we will not try to force you into our belief. We will never burn innocent women at the stake, or pull men to pieces with horses because they refuse to join with us in our ghost dances. You white people had a Messiah, and if history is to be believed nearly every nation has had one. . . ." Wynema page 73. But the book isn't only edge and gritty, it is an entertaining and well written read and insight into the heart and mind of a Muscogee woman and it continues to stand out even among the great literary works and remains as important today as it was when it was first written.

Kids are bowling for school

For the past couple of years the Eufaula Indian Community has supported fourteen community children in the USBC Bowling League at Fast Lanes in Checotah. Each child in the league has a scholarship fund started as soon as they start the league. During the league all of the kids participate in fund-raisers to add money to their scholarship. So when one of them tries to sell you something, remember it's for their future. In the past fall league we had six

bowlers qualify for the Pepsi Youth State Championship Tournament. This was the first time any of the kids qualified for a tournament. Nathan Estep, Hanna Long and Ashley Estep went to Sahoma Lanes in Sapulpa for the 11 and under division. Nathan placed 2nd in the boys and got \$100 added to his scholarship. Hanna placed 2nd in the girls and also had \$100 added to her scholarship. Ashley came in 4th place. Andrew Lewis, Patricia Hill and Jamie Estep went to Heritage Lanes in Oklahoma City in the 12 and over division. Andrew placed 55th out of 160 in his group. Jamie placed 16th and Patricia 28th out of 96 in their group. On May 5th we took 11 bowlers to the Green Country Lanes in Muskogee for another tournament. Patricia and Jamie came in 1st in the doubles division and Teresa Dominick and Ashley placed 2nd in the doubles. Ashley also got 3rd place in Singles. At the end of the fall league we had one team, E.I.C. Bowlers which included Patricia, Hanna and Ashley, win 1st place in the league. Patricia also received a badge for high average, Hanna received a badge for most improved, Jamie received a pin for high series, and Teresa received a pin for high game. We are very proud of all the kids and would like to thank the Eufaula Indian Community for their continued support.



photo submitted

Building models creates cultural bridge

A chance meeting at the 2004 Ocmulgee National Monument Native American Festival, between several members of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Architect-City Planner Richard Thornton, has created a cultural bridge between the Creeks of Oklahoma and the descendants of those Creeks who chose to "stick it out" in Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Florida. Thornton had a booth at the festival selling his hand made Creek and Maya style pottery, plus a book he had just written on Ocmulgee National Monument. The book was written from the Creek perspective, and proved that the large town was precisely planned in conjunction with the solar azimuth along a ten mile long corridor. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation later purchased that book to use as a college textbook. With the encouragement of Oklahoma Creek leaders, Thornton has written three other books since then on the Indigenous cultural, architecture and town planning traditions of the Southeast. He has created over 1200 virtual reality computer models of Native communities and architecture to illustrate these books. Oklahoma Creeks know his creative work best, though, by the large models of Ochesee and Etalwa (Etowah Mounds) in the rotunda of the Mound Building. These were built in late 2005 and early 2007. They are soon to be joined by an

even larger and more detailed model of the acropolis at Ocmulgee. Ocmulgee was a huge town site that consisted of over two dozen neighborhoods and villages stretched along a ten mile long corridor of the Ocmulgee River. This model focuses on the fortified area around the two largest mounds, and also includes many minute details such as people, dogs, pottery, and even vegetables. Richard Thornton is a graduate of Georgia Institute of Technology in Architecture and Georgia State University in City Planning. He is descended from Hitchiti-speaking Creeks and Yuchi living along the Savannah River, who were allies of the Patriots during the Revolution. They settled on a large tract of land on the Upper Savannah River after the Revolution. Several of his Creek ancestors migrated to Oklahoma during the mid-1800s and in 1905. He is an active member of the Perdido Bay Muskogee (Creek) Tribe of Florida and Georgia, which is state recognized. The little Perdido Bay Tribe is nationally known for its artisans and scholars. One of their members was responsible for the authenticity of all Native American aspects of the movie, "The New World." While at Georgia Tech, Richard was the first recipient of the Barrett Fellowship, which enabled him to spend a summer visiting most of the important Native American ruins in Mexico



photo submitted

Pictured above is the model of the Ocmulgee Mounds in Ocmulgee Ga. These models were created by Richard Thornton, who is an Architect-City planner. The models were constructed as a way to culturally bridge the gap between the Georgia and Oklahoma Muscogee (Creek) people. and Central America. In the years since then, he has frequently given lectures at universities and archaeological societies around the Southeast on Mesoamerican architecture. He became interested in learning much more about his own Creek heritage, after becoming "suddenly single" about ten years ago and moving to a townhouse near Etowah Mounds National Landmark in Cartersville, GA. Now most of his professional work is for Native American tribes or museums featuring Native American artifacts. Much of his time outside the office is devoted to hiking and canoeing along ancient trade routes, or studying archaeological sites around the Southeast.

CULTURE

The Plea of Crazy Snake (Chitto Harjo)

Oklahoma Historical Society

The detention of Chitto Harjo (Crazy Snake) in the Federal jail at Muskogee in 1901 by the United States authorities, inspired these lines of tribute peened at the time by Alexander Posey, the famous dream poet of the Creeks.

Chitto Harjo, most familiarly known as Crazy Snake and also known among the whites as Wison Jones, was a full blood Creek Indian of the old, decadent type. After the collapse of the Green Peach War and the retirement of Isparhecher from public affairs.

Harjo became the acknowledged leader of the discordent full blood Creeks who were opposing the allotment of tribal lands and the extinction of teh Tribal government.

The dissatisfied Indians who rallied to Harjo's leadership were a mere handful compared with the entire and resume the primitive status and practices of a none too heroic past. The feelings was general among these malcontents that they had been wronged by the Government and there was a blend of much truth in their indictment that both spirit and low both spirit and law of past treaties had been want only violated and their cherished hereditary rights and immunities destroyed.

In truth, and in fact, the United States treated the Indians like unwanted step-childern throughout its early course of dealing with them. The efforts which Harjo undertook in 1901 to establish a separate political status for his unyielding full blood followers at the old Hickory Stomp Grounds southeast of Okmulgee, were ill advised and farcical although undertaken wiht the utmost sincerity and good faith. The debacle was a tragic failure, Harjo and some of his militant associates were taken into custody by the military arm of the Government and indicted, tried and convicted in the Federal court, but were subsequently reprimanded and paroled by the court. Harjo was not wanting in the "courage to defy the powerful makers of his fate" but it had been a futile gesture.

During the succeeding five

years, the allotment of the Creek tribal lands was accomplished and the tribal government completely extinguished, to all of which the sullen "snake" Indians continued to be disinterested observers. They declined to make selections of their distributive shars of teh tribal domain and arbitrary selections were made for each of them.

Late in the fall of 1906, a Special Senate Investigating Committee came to the old Indian Territory to investigate and report upon general conditions. Secretary of the Interior Garfield accompanied the committee which was composed of Senators Teller of Colorado, Clarke of Montana, Brandagee of Connecticut and Long of Kansas.

Public hearings were held at the principal points in the Territory and on November 23rd, the committee opened a hearing in Tulsa. The meeting was held in the old Elk's lodge hall in the Seaman Building on West Third Street and when the session opened at ten o'clock the hall was packed to its capacity.

Chitto Harjo accompanied by perhaps a dozen of his associates occupied conspicuous front seats and the old warrior's presence being noted by the committee, he was accorded an opportunity to address the solons. Rising solemnly and with much deference, the "Snake" chief with the late David M. Hodge at his side as interpreter, advanced to the committee and with marked eloquence which held the committee and the spectators spellbound, delivered what might be said to be the last protest of an expiring race. The scene was dramatic and one which will ever linger in the an-

nals of Tulsa. Harjo spoke calmly, used no gestured and with no hesitation for language to express himself.

"I will begin wiht a recital of the relations of the Creeks with the Government of the United States from 1861 and

came from across the great ocean and he discovered this country for the white man this country which was at that time the home of my people. What did he find when he first arrived here? Did he find a black man standing here? Did he find either a black man or white man stand on this continent? I stood here first and Columbus first Discovered me.

"I want to know what did he say to the red man at that time? He was on one of the great four roads that led to light. At that time Columbus received the information that was given to him by my people. My ancestor informed him that he was ready to accept this light he proposed to give him and walk these four roads of light and have his children under his direction. He told him it was all right. He said it, "I will always take care of you. If your people meet with any troubles, I will take these troubles away.

I will stand before you and behind you and on each side of you and your people, and if any people come into your country I will take them away and you shall live in peace under me. My arms' he said, "are very long". He told him to come within his protecting arms and he said, "If anything comes against you for your ruin I will stand by you and preserve you and defend you and protect you."

"There is a law," he said at that time, "that is above every other law and that is away up yonder-high up-for," said he, "if any other town or nation or any other tribe come against you I will see through that law that you are protected. It does not make any difference to you," he said "if as many as twelve other nations come against you or twelve other tribes

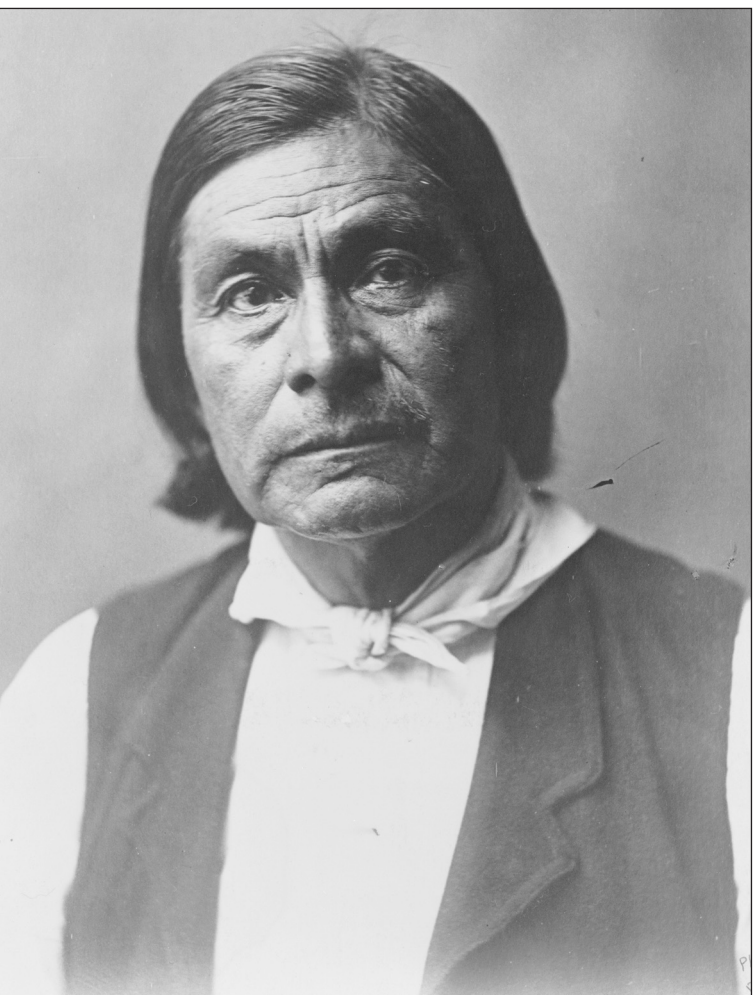
come against you it will not make any difference for I will combine with you and protect you in all things and take care of everything about your existence so you will live in this land that is yours and your fathers' without fear."

That is what he said and we agreed upon those terms. He told me that as long as the sun shone and the sky is up yonder these agreements shall be kept. This was the first agreement that we had with the white man. He said as long as the sun rises it shall last; as long as the waters run it shall last; as long as the grass grows it shall last. That was what it was to be and we agreed upon those terms that was what the agreement was and we signed our names to that agreement and to those terms. He said, "Just as long as you see light here; just as long as you see this light glimmering over us shall these agreements be kept and not until all these things shall cease and pass away shall our agreement pass away."

That is what he said and we believed it. I think there is nothing that has been done by the people should abrogate them. We have kept every term of that agreement. The grass is growing, the waters run, the sun shines, the light is with us and the agreement is with us yet for the God that is above us all witnessed that agreement. He said to me that whoever did anything against me was doing it against him and against the agreement and he said if anyone attempted to do anything against me, to notify him for whatever was done against me was against him and therefore against the agreement.

He said that he would send good men amongst us to teach us about his God and to treat them good for they were his representatives and to listen to them and if anyone attempted to molest us to tell them (the missionaries) and they would tell him. He told me that he would protect me in all ways; that he would take care of my people and look after them; that he would succor them if they needed succor and be their support at all times and I told him it was all right and he wrote the agreement that way.

CONTIUNED IN NOV. ISSUE



CHITTO HARJO

LANGUAGEUPDATES

Virginia Thomas – Manager

This is an exciting time for the Language Program with the new direction the program is taking. In order to properly teach the Mvskoke language, you must first lay a foundation so that the students can build upon it. The Language Committee and Language Staff are trying to incorporate tribal customs, tradition, history and government into the language curriculum so that the student will have a better understanding of their culture and not just learn to say the words.

We have the hope of teaching the students life skills, good citizenship, being respectful of their elders, honor their traditions all while learning the Mvskoke language in those contents. The Language Program has partnered with the Communication Department to start producing DVD's that will be used in the classroom as visual aids to the language curriculum. We plan to interview elders and include their lessons as part of the foundation of learning the language. The Cultural Preservation Office is also partnering with the Language Program to bring in experts in the areas of classroom presentation and learning skills. The staff of both programs completed a puppetry and storytelling workshop where they learned to art of shadow puppets. The teachers will utilize these techniques in the classroom setting using Mvskoke legends and stories.

The Language Program is making a difference in the life's of our children and our future.

Phillip Harjo – Dustin School Language Teacher

Summer is over and school is back in session. For the kids in Dustin, school started on August 9, 2007. They are ready and willing to learn this school year. I am currently teaching pre-k through high school with 72 students in my language classes. The students are eager to learn and have already completed the units on greetings, colors and tribal history.

Gracine Hick – Holdenville

School district Language Teacher

While most students are learning Spanish, the kindergarten thru third grade classes are leaning the Mvskoke language. This year we plan to learn about our Creek history and culture along with the language. This year we plan to learning the greetings in all the classes with the students anxious to start adding the history and culture of our tribe. I plan to tell the students Mvkoke legends and stories that are not found in the history books but stories that are handed down from our elders. I want the students to have a better understanding of the ways of our Mvskoke Nation.

Millie Colbert – Curriculum Coordinator

Our Language program is still working on completing the Language Curriculum for our Language Teachers. We are working as a team to help in the creations of hands on activities and visual aids to better teach in the classroom.

The Language staff also gave a short Mvskoke Language presentation at the JOM In-Service Training on September 18, 2007 at the Green Country Vo-Tech here in Okmulgee. We plan to work with our elders and starting a video library to share in the classroom. Mary Frye and I, have been invited to go to New York on October 13—17, 2007 for the National JOM Conference to give a workshop on the Mvskoke Language program and how we are working with the school districts and community centers.

Sylvia Baker – Administrative Assistant

We have just completed our pre – testing for the school 2007-2008 for about 400 students in Dustin and Holdenville schools. This is one part of the phases we have to do to get our scurrilous accredited our next phase. We will be compiling all the static's which we have already completed, and do another testing in the mid-term so that we may be able to correctly get the number of student and also know how much of the

Mvskoke Language is learned.

Pretesting the students is to measure how much Creek they retained from last school year and much the new students know. Post testing will be made at the end of the school year for evaluation purposes. All the Mvskoke Language staff are working on a month long lesson plans and activities for the two teachers. Plans are picked up by the teachers each Friday, which is their planning day. School supplies were ordered by Ms. Roberta Powell, Office Clerk, and Mrs. Hicks on July 19, 2007. Supplies will be picked up two weeks.

Mary Frye – Language Specialist

Dustin Public School began on August 9, 2007. Mr. Phillip Harjo is teaching the Mvskoke Language to Pre-K-High School. Holdenville Public School began on August 20, 2007. Mrs. Gracine Hicks is teaching the Mvskoke Language to Pre-K-Third Grade. Mrs. Sylvia Baker, Administrative Assistant, finished the pretesting for the evaluation system of the Dustin students on August 10-11, 2007 and Holdenville students on August 20-23, 2007.

I have been teaching four classes of the Mvskoke Alphabets to Twin Hills Community Center members starting August 21-September 11. I have also been teaching Mvskoke animals, colors, and numbers at the Twin Hills Community Center's Fall Cultural Day in late September.

Mrs. Hicks, Mr. Harjo, and myself, attended Tribal Language Workshop featuring The Rassias Method of Instruction, August 2-3, 2007. The Rassias Method of teaching language includes some fifty dramatic techniques shown to improve the learning, comfortable use and long term retention of languages. This workshop was sponsored by Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes, Ponca Nation, the Shawnee Tribe (Miami) and the Indian Education Section of the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

Part of my job responsibilities is to monitor the classroom activities and to assist the language teachers in preparing for their daily classes.

Indian Art and History Celebration

GEORGIA — An Indian Art & History Celebration will be held on November 9-11, 2007 at the Walker County Civic Center, Agricultural Building, in Walker County on Friday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Sunday Noon - 6 p.m.

A featured artist during the celebration will be Jon Tiger of Eufaula. Tiger attended the Eufaula, Oklahoma Public School System. Although mainly self-taught, Jon went on to further art studies at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with Allan Houser (internationally known Apache Artict) as his sculpting instructor.

After graduation from Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah, Oklahoma in 1973, he returned to the Institute. His only art class was 3-D drawing with J.D. Roberts as his instructor. In 1975-76, he attended the University of Science and Art in Chickasha, Oklahoma and the Oklahoma State Technical School in Okmulgee, Okla.

An award winning artist, Jon Tiger exhibited his work in celle, Germany in 2002 in a 12th Century castle and was most favorably received. Many Germans are very interested in the Native culture and appreciate the Native way of life.

Tiger works in acrylic, watercolor, prisma pencil, graphite, oil and ink, woodburning and also paints skulls.

He works in both miniature and large sizes. He is also a sign painter. He has given several public school presentation through the JOM Program.

Jon has designed several University text cover illustrations and conference posters concerning Native issues. He also accepts commissions. He is included in "The Biographical Directory of Native American Painters" authored by Patrick D. Lester in 1995.

Jon is a fullblood Mvskoke (Creek) of the Raccoon Clan of the Red or Warrior Town of Eufaula-Canadian Tribal Town and a member of the West Eufaula Baptist Church. He was raised by his maternal grandparents, the late Bennie Buckskin and Susie Cosar Scott of Eufaula, Okla. The Mayor of Eufaula declared November1, 2004 as Jon Tiger Day. He works out of his rural McIntosh County home, where his studio is surrounded by wild turkeys, deer, coyote, bobcat, and other animals which come into his yard. Jon is inspired by his surroundings. Jon Tiger travels extensively showcasing his art and has work in many permanent collections.

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Memorial Singing

HENRYETTA — Rev. Willie and Salinee Sumka Memorial Singing will be held October 13, 2007 at Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church. Dinner will be served at 12:00 p.m. and singing will start at 1:30 p.m. The emcee will be Joe Grayson.

For more information, contact Joe or Diane Grayson at (918) 696-6207.

The church is located: turn off Jiffy Mart on main highway in Henryetta, go approximately 5-6 miles to Salem Baptist Church, then turn right, go approximately 3 miles.

Tookparfka Revival

CALVIN — Tookparfka Baptist Church will be hosting a Revival, October 22 through October 26, beginning at 7 p.m. nightly. Evangelist will be Clinton Sinclair.

Fellowship will be held after services, nursery will be provided. For more information, call Sarah Herrod at (405) 645-1127.

Tookparfka Baptist Church is located six miles south of Horntown on Hwy 75 turn East on paved road three miles. From old Calvin bridge, go three miles East and two miles North on paved road.

Creek Chapel Revival

OKEMAH — Creek Chapel Church will be having a Revival on October 24th, 25th, 26th and 27th at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Ministers will be: Wednesday, Rev. Malcolm Tiger; Thursday, Rev. Toby Hill; Friday, Rev. Jimmy Alexander and Saturday, Rev. George Harjochee.

The church is located three miles South of Okemah, turn left and go four and a half miles East.

Concharty Church Festival

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church will be hosting a fall festival on October 27 beginning at 4 p.m. with fun, food and games. All are welcome.

Concharty is located four miles

North of state highway 16, on Bixby road, and one mile East or from Tulsa, go South on Memorial past Allen Ranch, to Bixby Road, turn right.

Hallelujah Night

HENRYETTA — New Beginnings Baptist Church will be hosting a Hallelujah Night on October 27. Activities include: chili cook-off at 5 p.m.; hot dogs and chili beginning at 5:45 p.m.; a costume and pumpkin carving contest at 6:15 p.m. and hay rides starting at 6:30 p.m. Activity booths will also be available for children and adults.

Everyone is welcome. All activities and food are free to those that attend. New Beginnings Baptist Church is located approximately two miles west of Westlawn Cemetary on Turkey Pen and Hedge Road. Signs will be posted.

For more information, contact Pastor JR Taylor at (918) 513-1033.

Randall Indian Baptist Church

WILSON — Randall Indian Baptist Church is hosting a gospel singing, food sale, worship service and fall festival on October 27.

Gospel singing starts at 12:00 noon. Worship service begins at 6:00 p.m. Fall Festival activities immediately following worship service. Everyone welcome.

The church is located one mile south of Wilson School and one mile west.

Montesoma Baptist Fall Festival

OKEMAH — Montesoma Baptist Church will be having a Fall Festival on October 27 beginning at 1 p.m.

There will be a chili contest, cake walk and costume contest in four categories.

Big Cussetah Fall Festival

OKMULGEE — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church will be hosting a Fall Festival on October 27 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

There will be games, cake walk and concession.

Hickory Ground # 1 Celebrates 100 years

by Nicholas Howk

MNN Senior Writer

HENRYETTA – Gathering outside in the open air pavilion, members, friends and family of Hickory Ground #1 attended a special celebration of the church turning 100 years old.

This church has stood the test of time even when it seemed like the devil had won and the doors would be close. God prevailed each and every time, and by the looks of things, this church has been blessed over and over.

The site was uplifting to see something so special take place. It is not often that a church stays in existence as long as Hickory Ground #1.

The church began as a small log cabin, and as more and more people began attending the existing building became too small. After seeing this take place, a few members of Hickory Ground #1 decided to move up the road and begin another church, Hickory Ground #2. With the

continued growth through the years, new buildings were added to accommodate the new members.



Hickory Ground #1

How dedicated and faithful the ancestors must have been to keep this church alive. It must have taken a tremendous amount of faith and the power of God to allow this church to survive for this long.

After most of the people had arrived, the outside festivities moves inside the church building where singing of Creek Hymns began. Even though some people

in attendance did not know the Creek language, it seemed as if they couldn't help themselves from humming or even trying to sing along.

The mood in and around the church was one of joy and happiness. Everyone in attendance could tell how important this event was, and the smiles on their faces showed this to be evident.

Throughout the day, the people were reminded that the building is not the church, the people are the church and that they should recognize all the work the elders did and try to pattern their lives in

a similar way. The motto for the day that was repeated over and over what that God began a work in this church and He is the only way the church will keep going.

The journey Hickory Ground #1 has been through has not been an easy one, but if examined then one could tell that this journey was truly blessed by God.

93rd McCombs Family Reunion

EUFAULA — The William and David McCombs Family Reunion was held July 7 at Tuskegee Church with approximately 125 family and friends.

This McCombs reunion was the 93rd reunion in a continuous line back to 1914. Members came from Arizona, California, Virginia, Wisconsin, Texas and Mexico. Prizes were given by Mary Deerinwater for: youngest person, Taylor Harris at two months; oldest person, Geneva Colbert until Vivian McCosar arrived and farthest traveled, Charles Wood family of Virginia.

Bud McCombs was master of ceremonies. Hymn singing was led by Millie Colbert, accompanied by Henrietta Marshall and Creek singing



was led by Rudolph Colbert.

Charles Hawkins presented seashells to the children. Honored guests were: Speaker of the House, George

Tiger and wife; council member, Cherrah Quiett, her mother and two daughters and council member, Tony Notaro and his mother.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Emilia Renee Trejo Watson

ADA — Emilia Renee Trejo Watson was born on March 29 at Carl Albert Hospital.
She is the daughter of Stacey Waston and Gerardo Trejo.
Maternal grandparents are Bob and Abby Larney of Holden-ville.
Maternal great grandparents are the late George (Toby) and Hat-tie Alexander of Lamar.
Emilia has two brothers, Antonio and Kejo.
She belongs to the bird clan.



Jaycie Ellamae Horse

TULSA — Jaycie Ellamae Horse was born on July 4 at South Crest Hospital.
She is the daughter of Jessica Cook and Dewey Horse, Jr.
Maternal grandparents are Norma Taryole of Okmulgee, and William Cook and Peggy Martin of Okmulgee.
Maternal great grandparents are Newman and Lydia Taryole, and the late George Cook and the late Ella Mae Cook of Okemah.
Paternal grandparents are Jeanetta Horse of Bristow and Dewey Horse, Sr. of Tulsa.
Jaycie has one brother, Trenton Horse.



BIRTHDAYS

Nashoba Jemez Watson

Nashoba Jemez Watson celebrated his 5th bithday with family and friends on August 15. The theme for the party was Cars.
He is the son of Cecil and Sharon Watson.
Maternal grandparents Rose and Danny Claw of Kaibet, Ari-zona.
Paternal grandparents are Bob and Abbie Larney of Holdenville.
Great grandparents are the lateToby and Hattie Alexander of Lamar.
Maternal clan is Maiideshgizhnii (Coyote Pass Jemez people) Navajo Tribe and Paternal Clan is Bird.
Nashoba has one sister Tenetke who is in the 3rd grade.



Antonio Watson

HOLDENVILLE — Antonio Watson celebrated his sixth birth-day with family and friends on September 8 at the park.
His birthday was August 29.
He is the son of Stacey Watson and Norberto Sanchez.
Antonio is in the first grade at Reed Elementary in Holdenville.
Antonio has one brother, Kejo, and on sister Emilia.
His maternal great grandparents are Bob and Abbie Larney of Holdenville.
Maternal great grandparents are the Late Toby and Hattie Alex-ander of Lamar.
He is of the Bird clan.



Jasmine Keva Washington

OKMULGEE — Jasmine Keva Washington turned one year old on August 2. She celebrated with a Princess Party theme. Her cake was a pink castle.
She is the daughter of Brenda Goodvoice and David Washington of Okmulgee.
Her maternal grandparents are Sally Goodvoice and the late Kenneth Goodvoice of Okmulgee.
Her paternal grandparents are the late Lillian and Faldo Wash-ington of Okmulgee.
She is of Muscogee Creek, Cherokee and Rosebud Sioux de-scent.



Ian Deo

OKMULGEE — Ian Deo celebrated his 6th birthday on Septem-ber 15 with a sports themed party. His parents, sister, Aunt Jasmyne, Rachel, Jennifer & Randi, his uncle Billy, Grandma Brenda, cousins and friends were in attendance.
He is the son of Tina and Phillip Deo of Okmulgee.
Maternal grandparents are Brenda & the late Elmer Jack.
Paternal grandparents are Bill Deo & the late Sandra Lang.
He has on sister, Addison Deo.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Lowe completes Aviation Maintenance Program

SHAWNEE — William Bradley Lowe has completed the Aviation Maintenance Program at Gordon Cooper Technology School. On May 22, 2007, Brad graduated with a license in Airframe and Powerplant.
He is the son of Wilbert and Koko Lowe and Thomas and Wanda Chapo. Paternal Grandpar-ents are the late John and Minnie Lowe; Maternal Grandparents are Juanita Dunson and the late Eugene Dunson. Brad has one sister, Lisa Watson. Brad resides in Shawnee with his wife, Jeanelle and three children.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Martha Berryhill visits mother's grave

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — It was a touching moment that day to see Martha making her way to the 103 year old grave of her mother. One of Martha's wishes that she has always wanted fulfilled was to see her mother's grave. Martha's mother died at a young age when Martha was only 4-years-old and Martha has always wanted to see where she was buried, but it wasn't until some men from Cultural Preservation were contracted to clean up the grave site of overgrown trees and grass that her wish was able to come true.

These men were Norman Asbury, Sam Bass and Norman Bass. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill organized a service that took place grave side where Reverend Joe Lowe gave and message and Second Chief Berryhill sang a few Creek Hymns. Only a few were gathered at the grave that day, but everyone that was in attendance could tell that something special was taking place. As Martha raised her hands in the air this was one site that will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it.



With tears rolling down her face and hands lifted high in the air, Martha Berryhill praise Jesus for finally allowing her to visit the spot where her mother had been layed to rest. Visiting her mothers grave has been a life-long wish of Martha's. Now she can finally feel at peace with never having seen her mother's grave. The service that took place seemed to put a smile on her face and joy in her heart.

MNN/Nicholas Howk

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SPOTLIGHT

Creek filmmaker tells story of Indian plight

“We love the vast amount of undeveloped open space and land in Oklahoma. People are down to earth. I enjoy seeing the people/friends again that gave their time so generously to our film and it serves as a reminder of my roots. Oklahoma is in my blood.”

LOS ANGELES —We are living in the Age of Information. We live in a world of Google, Wikipedia and Answers.com. All the knowledge we need, be it vital or just plain useless, is only a click away. The mainstream media of moviemaking certainly fits this example. Movie trailers, bios and personal blogs make it possible to ask almost anyone about any modern movie, and they can almost quote you all the lines, tell you the actors, director and even, in some cases, the ‘best boy.’

A filmmaker who became famous in the 1990’s was Tim Burton. Burton, along with his rather ‘dark’ and ‘unique’ interpretations presented a new look at films that ushered in a renaissance era in the entertainment industry.

One of the more popular films that Burton directed was entitled ‘The Nightmare before Christmas’ from 1993. This film has gained somewhat a modern cult standing, especially this time of the year. Hard-core fans of the film can quote every stanza and know most of the celebrity voices behind each character. Even the voices that were cast to support or bring to life the characters that had a back-up role. In the Burton movie, the voices and songs of the “Mummy” and the “Vampire” were aptly supplied by none other than Muscogee (Creek) citizen Sherwood Ball.

Ball lives in Hollywood and has supplied the voices and music for other movies such as the Japanese film “Solar Crisis”.

But Ball has also made his apperance in front of the camera as well. He started his unique career in 1966 playing a boy scout in the Fred MacMurray film “Follow Me Boys” . Other films Ball has appeared or sung in include: “102 Dalmations”, “Always, Love.com”, “Make room for Granddaddy”, “Down the drain”, “Wine, Woman and a Song”. Ball even made appearances in the television program “Hangin’ with Mr. Cooper” .

“My father’s side of the family was in show business since the 1890’s,” says Ball, who boasts that it also has been four generations of his family involved in the biz.

Ball’s family lineage has definitely shown talent, especially in the area of music. Although not Native American related directly, Ball’s family can lay claim to the creation of one special song that has become a staple of another popular culture. “My Great Grandfather, who was Ernest R. Ball, wrote “When Irish Eyes Are Smiling,” says Ball. “He also wrote the song “Let the Rest of the World Go By.”

Ball says his grandfather was born in the Hawaiian music boom of the 1930’s and saw it flourish in Los Angeles in the early 1940’s. His grandmother was even a jazz pianist who played for the Ina Rae Hutton Band. Other family members such as Aunt Roberta Sherwood was a singer and helped make the songs “Up the

...told me about how the white man would force some people to sign away their oil rights at gun point....

Lazy River” and “You’re nobody till Somebody loves you,” famous. “I guess you could say show

business is in my blood,” says Ball proudly.

But Ball’s rock-star life actually started on an Air Force Base in Chandler, Arizona. “We moved to Los Angeles when I was two years old, “ explains Ball, “ My mother is Nova Gail Conley from Wetumka and her father was William Conley. My great grand mother was Hepsie Leader.” Ball explains that she (Hepsie) and her mother, Eliza, are

owes some of its inspiration to Creek orgins.

“My Grandpa, William Conley, who was from Wetumka,” says Ball, “told me about how the white man who would force some people to sign away their oil rights at gun point and then shoot them in the head.”

The stories that were shared with Ball from his family was enough of an insiprtion for him



Filmmaker, and muscian Sherwood Ball

in the promo photo, “Surviiing the reign of terror, the Osage Indian Murders”. A documentary about the brutal and illegal means land settlers stooped to gain Osage tribal headrights during the 1920’s.

It fact, it is this documentary that brought Ball and his wife Celia Xavier back to Oklahoma recently. The couple, who founded “Ball Entertainment, LLC and White Light, Inc.” , presented the documentary at the Osage Film Festival. The Festival was held at the historic Constandine Theatre in Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

Although the film made its debut in Osage country, it is not the first time it has been presented in Oklahoma Indian country. The documentary, which was still in the post-production phase, was shown at the Red Fork Film Festival, formerly the Muscogee Film Festival, in 2005.

The documentary was well received by all just as it was during the Red Fork Film Festival. Those in attendance included Osage Principal Chief Jim Gray who said he was glad to see “our stories being told.”

According to Ball, the documenta-ry had been years in the making and even

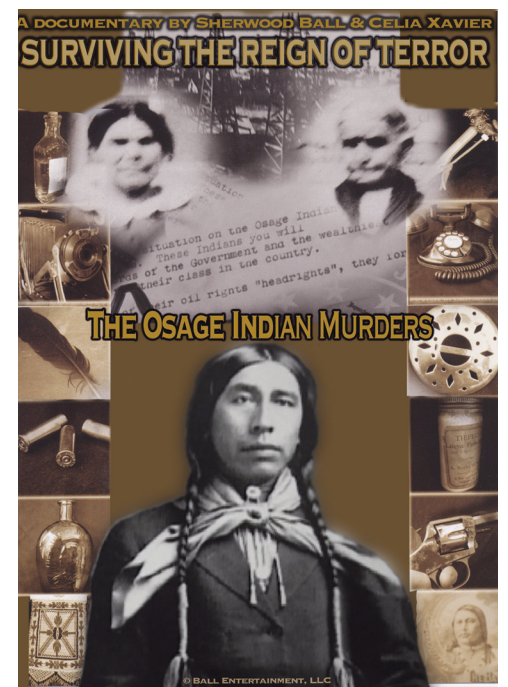
to begin documenting and researching other stories and facts that he drew. It soon became a quest and Ball knew that he would need to dedicate much of his time to getting the story out. His research would lead him to discovering many grissly stories from tribes-including the Osage, who became one of the richest tribes because of the discovery of oil and other natural resources found on their allotted land or “headrights” in the early decades of the twentieth century. Because of the over-night monetary gains experienced by so many tribal members who had never known wealth, they often became the target of non-Indians who were swinderlers, thieves, and even murderers, all for the opportunity of gaining, or rather stealing, their property. Ball knew this story had to be told, no matter how long it took.

“After many years of research and two shorts, (films) we finally made this documentary,” says Ball, “we had never made a documentary before, but the Osage tribe wanted the truth to be told,” Ball says the motivation was always there to tell the story, but at the same time, the effort, as well as the emotion involved, was sometimes

overwhelming, “it’s difficult to work so many years on a murder mystery. It can be really depressing,” says Ball, “at times we felt the ancient ones have guided us and given us strength and inspiration to go on when we felt like giving up”, with the satisfisaction of completing this project. Ball can’t help but add a little jab as well, “with 20 million LEGAL immigrants coming to this country every year, we want them to realize the price that was paid for them to live here,” says Ball.

Although the work on the documentary was tough and taxing, Ball admits that it was also a labor of love, thanks to the work relationship he shares with his wife, “my wife researches, writes and produces,” says Ball. “I direct, edit, score, create computer motion graphics and author the DVD. “We both feel its necessary to have something important to say as filmmakers.” Ball has been involved in show business all his life, when asked about some of the celebrities he has worked, he mentions the names of people like Issac Hayes, Bruce Springsteen, Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, Joe Walsh, Mark Isham, and Eddie Van Halen, “Celia’s worked with Kris Kristofferson, Michael Douglas, Michael Madson, and Gavin McCleod.” Ball plans on presenting the documentary at festivals all over the country, including the Red Fork Film Festival on October 18 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

But no matter where Creek filmmaker goes to create, whether it be in the field of film or music, he and Celia consider it an honor to come back to Oklahoma and share their stories, “we love the vast amount of undeveloped open space and land in Oklahoma,” says Ball. “People are down to earth. There’s no Hollywood, Oklahoma. It’s refreshing. I enjoy seeing the people/friends again that gave their time so generously to our film and it serves as a reminder of my roots. Oklahoma is in my blood.”



Movie poster for: Surviving the reign of terror-The Osage Indian Murders

VETERANS DAY
CELEBRATION

There will be an Open House and Veterans Day celebration at the new veterans' Museum/Office Building on November 8, 2007 commencing at 10:00 am.

The event will commemorate Veterans Day. An Open House for the Veterans' Building will also be held and Guests Speakers will highlight the day's event. Cake and coffee will be served.

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MARINES
REPORT ON 2
NOVEMBER, 2007

United States Marines are requested to report at 1000 hours on 2 Nov. 07 at the new Veterans Building for a special event. Please wear your vest, or uniform if preferred. An event has been organized. This event will probably happen only once.

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OBITUARIES

MARY BASQUEZ

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Mary Lou Basquez were held September 25th at the Sand Creek Baptist Church with Reverends J.B. Fish and Harry Anderson officiating.

Mary was born on March 25, 1943 in Wetumka to Eli and Martha (Thompson) Fish.

She grew up in and around the Wetumka area and attended school there. While living in Wetumka she met and later married Jim Basquez. They made their home in Wetumka for a while then moved to Tulsa.

In February of 1978 they moved to Wetumka and then lived there for the rests of her life.

She was preceded in death by both of her parents, three brothers and a sister.

Mary was survived by her husband Jim Basque of the home, her children: Greg Basque of Tulsa, Darrell Coonhead, Gary Basque, and Jimmy Basque, all of Wetumka, her daughter: Martha Basque of Tulsa, Cheryl Coonhead of Dustin, and Teresa Shatwell of Wetumka, her sisters Rosalee Manley and Lizzie Buckley, both of Weleetka.

Pallbearers for Mary are Jimmy Buckley, Hillis Manley, James Underwood, Todd Renfro, Justin Butler, and Jimmy Buckley, Jr.

Interment was at the Basquez Family Cemetery.

ROBERT BEAR

CASTLE — Funeral services for Robert Kent Bear were held on September 6th, at Prairie Springs Baptist Church .

Robert was born September 13, 1960 in Claremore to Clifford and Birdie Bear.

He grew up in Okfuskee County and attended school at Mason.

In 1981 he began a relationship with Stella Yahola. To this union , three children were born.

He worked as a laborer in the Wetumka area.

His hobbies were playing sports and such as basketball, baseball, and watching his sons play sports.

Survivors included his wife Stella, of the home; sons: Chris Yahola, Jonathan Bear, and Craig Bear of Wetumka; his parents, Clifford Bear and Birdie Lee Bear of Okemah; two brothers: Clifford Bear, Jr. of Okmulgee, and Randy Bear of Sapulpa; three sisters: Francis Tilley of Seminole, Genell Jimboy of Tulsa, and Sandra Miller of Ada; four grandchildren: Kalie, Esse, Brianna, and Ivan; and a host of relatives and friends.

SOLOMON BUCKLEY

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Solomon Buckley were held on September 13 with Reverend J.B. Fish officiating.

Solomon was born November 20, 1951 in Claremore to Henry and Lizzie (Fish) Buckley.

He joined the Marine Corps and spent several years in the service for his country. After completing his tour of duty he was discharged and he returned home.

He married Renee Butler.

Survivors included his children Jonathan, Solomon Jr., Jessica and Johannah Buckley all of the Oklahoma City and Norman area; four brothers: Jimmy Buckley of Henryetta, Frankie Buckley of Los Angeles, Ca., Vincent Buckley of Shawnee, and Jonas Buckley of McAlester; two sisters: Angela Golden of Okemah, and Marie Asbury of Wichita Falls, Tx.; also by his immediate family and a host of friends.

She was preceded in death by her brother Johnny Buckley, 1974, and a sister Lenora Wiley, 2007.

Pallbearers included Jim Buckley II, Hillis Manley, Jim Vasquez, Clayton Buckley, Anthony Hill, and Christopher Buckley.

Interment was at the Fish Cemetery.

CHARLES DEERE

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Charles Amos Deere were held October 6, at teh Salt Creek Indian Methodist Church with Reverend Frank Moppin officiating.

Charles was born on April 2, 1950

in Holdenville to Robert and Amanda Deere.

He attended Morris High School where he was an outstandin footall player, receiving All-State Honorable Mention. He graduated from Morris High School in 1969.

After graduation, Charles went into military service with the U.S. Navy. He served on the USS Bon Homme Richard during the Vietnam war. Charles was awarded the National Degrnese Services Medal , the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. He was honorably discharged on May 22, 1975.

He worked for Kingsberry Construction in Holdenville until it closed. He also worked for the City of Holdenville for 21 yearsin numerous positions, the last as a Lab Technician at the Sewer Plant for 17 years. He retired in 2004 due to health problems.

Charles married Debbie Harris, his sweetheart of 14 years, on February 14, 2004.

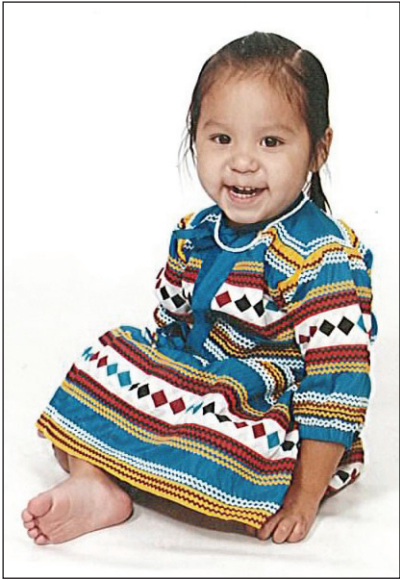
He was preceeded in death by parents Robert and Amanda Deer; two brothers: Virgil Deer and Dewayne Scott; and one sister, Evelyn Harjo.

Survivors included his wife, Debbie Deer, of the home; sons: Robert Deer and Sgt. Carl T. Harris; and daughters Cindy Daemon, and Nacy Harris; brothers: Michael Deer and Larry Soweka; Sisters: Sandra Deer-Leader Simpson, Robin Deer, Vebena Woodward, and Mistzi Deer; and numerous nephews, nieces, and grandchildren.

Pallbearers are John Augustine, Caleb Deer, Sgt. Carl T. Harris, Aaron Leader, Taron McLemore, and Vernon Woodward.

Honorary Pallbearers included Jesse Hernandez, Tenn-us-see Horse-shoe Club, and nephews.

MATTHIAS CANTU



CANTU

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Matthias Scott Cantu were held on September 11 at the Little Quarsarty Indian Baptist Church with great grandfather Reverend Eddie Lindsey officiating.

Matthias was born December 29, 2004 in Okmulgee to Meressa Ann Cantu of Okmulgee and Chester Franklin Bear of Ada.

Survivors included his parents, brother Elijah Cantu of the home; maternal grandparents: Frank and Wyiquita Bear of Okmulgee and Miguel and Mary Jan Cantu of Ochopee of Florida; paternal grandmother Sandra Miller of Ada; maternal great grandparents: Eddie and Gretchen Lindsey of Oklahoma City; paternal great grandparents: Clifford and Birdie Bear of Okemah, maternal great grandmother Tochee Wind of Weleetka; uncles: Michael Cantu of Miami, Fl., David Bear of Oklahoma City, and Miguel Cantu, Jr. of Ochopee, Fl.; aunts Katrina Beaver of Okmulgee, Alicia Cantu of Miami, Fl. Mary Pauline Cantu of Ochopee, Fl, and Dianna Rose Cantu of Ochopee, Fl.

Casketbearers included Michael Cantu, David Bear, Miguel Cantu, Jr., Jeremy Monahwee, and Joshua Herbert.

Interment was at the Lindsey Family Cemetery.

BABARA FIXICO

CASTLE — Funeral services for Barbara Joy Fixico were held September 19 at Prairie Springs Baptist Church with Reverend Richard Fixico and Reverend Chad Smith.

Barbara was born on February 26, 1961 in Claremore to Arthur and



FIXICO

Marlene Joy Fixico.

She spent her earlier years in and around the Olustee area and attended schools there.

She spent the Majority of her time looking after and taking care of her mother and father.

She is preceeded death by her father.

She is survived by her mother Marlene Fixico of the home; a daughter Samantha and Joey Wright of Altus; a sister Letha Fixico of Oklahoma City; brothers: Jimmy and Mildred Fixico of Okemah, Kenneth Fixico of Duncan, Quintion and Janet Fixico of Lawton, Anthony and Stella Fixico, Stacy and Alicia Fixico, and Chuck and Olivia Fixico all of Altus; several aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

Pallbearers for Barbara included Don Fixico, David Fixico, Aaron Gernjak, Dustin Fixico, Wyatt Fixico, and Erick Lopez.

Interment was at the Prairie Springs Cemetery.

ELIZABETH LOWE



LOWE

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Elizabeth Lowe were held September 8th at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Malcolm Tiger and Reverend Ray Samuel.

Pallbearers included Willie Griffin, John Thomas Jr., Steve Tiger, Jerry Watoshe, Steve Wesley, James Dick, Alec Yahola, Thomas Ray Yargee.

Honorary Pallbearers were Edwin Marshall and Aaron Hair.

PEGGY LYDA

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Peggy Ann Lyda were held on September 29, 2007 at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel.

Peggy was born on June 2, 1940 in Wetumka to Albert Bernice (Harjo) Thomas.

She was married to Recy Don Lyda on November 10, 1971 in Durant.

Peggy was a lifetime member of the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church.

Peggy was preceeded in death by her Parents and one sister Reba Thomas.

Survivors included her husband Recy of the home; three daughters: Sherry Guffey of Okmulgee, Cindy and Kevin Brown of Morris, Tara and Jeff Allen of Okmulgee; two brothers: John Thomas of Ted Oak, Texas, Loy Thomas of Okmulgee; and two sisters: Lois Thomas and Carolyn Thomas both of Okmulgee; three grandchildren: Jeffrey Quintin Allen, Meredith Lyda, and Skyler Allen all of Okmulgee.

Pallbearers will include victor Thomas, Shawn Thomas, Christopher Thomas, Albert Thomas, Zackery Thomas, and Eric Thomas.

Honorary Pallbearers are Jeffrey Quintion Allen and Skyler Allen.

CRIMSON OSBORNE



OSBORNE

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Crimson Joe-Lee (Cutke) Osborne were held September 20 at the Okfuskee Indian Community Center in Buckeye with Jimesey Harjo officiating.

Crimson was born on August 27 to Gray and Shelly (Hicks) Osborne in Ada.

Survivors included her mother and father, a sister Arianna Osborne of the home; grandparents Sharon and Simmer Hicks of Okemah and grandmother Marilyn Stanfill; several aunts and uncles: Sagey and Amanda Hicks of Okemah, Curtis an Justine Harjo of Wetumka, Christie and Dale Plum of Haydonville, Sheila and Kirk Crabtree

of Norman, Pam and Tracy Hiodgin of Moore, Belinda and Brandon Stubblefield of Gypsy, and Melissa and Justin Plum of Gypsy.

Pallbearers included Nathan Roberts, Nick Osborne.

Honorary Pallbearers were uncles and great uncles.

Interment was at the Hicks Family Cemetery.

SPECIAL THANKS

MCINTOSH

On behalf of Siah McIntosh, the family would like to express their deepest gratitude to all that made donations such as food, flowers, prayers, and words of encouragement.

Also a special thanks to Creek Nation Social Services, Honor Guard, and IHS. Also to Gwen Hill for the preparation of food, Eufaula Community Center for the use of their tractors and flatbeds.

Mvto, The McIntosh Family

COMPTON

On behalf of Mark Compton, the family would like thank Creek Nation Color Guard for the wonderful job they did at his funeral back in April. Everyone present was very impressed with the Military Honor that they gave him. They were so impressive it made his funeral a real tribute to his military service.

He served four years in the Marines aboard the U.S.S Chicago. His sleeping quarters had pipes in them wrapped with asbestos. He had methelthesioma. He refused experimental treatment and fought seven years for his life by exercise and good food. I felt that he died for his country and your group gave him the honor he deserved. It was a beautiful tribute to a service man and you were outstanding. Mark also served in the U.S. Army for three years in Germany during the Cold War. You have no idea how much your Military Honors impressed all who were present. You all deserve praise for all you do. My family thanks you from the bottom of our hearts.

Thank you, The Compton Family

HARVEY

On behalf of Sandra Lee Harvey the family would like to thank Chief A.D. Ellis and Creek Nation for the beautiful burial service provided on August 29th for their beloved "Sandie."

Thank you so much Emily Jade Snow, Buddy Snow, her children, her Mother Viola Tolbert, Grand, mother Evelyn Smith and her sister Shelly Spears.

Thank you, The Harvey Family

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SPORTS

July Flies High at 2007 Native Elite Sports Showcase

• Tahlequah Sequoyah senior standout nabs slam dunk title and second team all-tourney

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

MACY, Neb. — For Tahlequah Sequoyah's Randy July, defying gravity is just a part of life. Most people would say dunking a basketball is something they would never be able to do. Not so for this Creek high-flier. For Randy, he does it on a regular basis and has an increasing collection of hardware to prove it. He picked up his latest slam dunk title a few months ago at this year's Native Elite Sports Showcase tournament held in Macy, Nebraska.

And that was just icing on the cake. Earlier this year in March, he wowed the crowd on All-Star night and took top honors at 4 Love of the Game's All-Indian March Madness tournament in Henryetta. Many people in attendance left believing they had just seen the best high school dunk contest ever.

In April he came within inches, literally, of his next dunk title when he took runner-up at the Amerind All-West Native American Classic in Denver.

As if that wasn't exciting enough Randy was later invited to the invitation-only Native Showcase where he would have the opportunity to share the court with the top 24 Native American High School basketball players in the country. The two-day event included the popular dunk contest, which from the get-go, July had his sights on entering to get redemption after the close call in Denver. Not only did he enter, but he brought home the six foot high trophy. In addition, Randy showed he had mad skills in the tourney rotation as well and was named to the second team all-tournament list.

July wasn't the only athlete,

however, to represent the Creek Nation well at the Showcase. Creek citizen and Randy's classmate at Sequoyah High, Sukey Deere took home the girls three-point competition.

These athletes were also given the exposure that will help take them to the next level in their careers. College recruiters and coaches were on hand to witness the competition and they liked what they saw. "These kids have done a great job and there is some real talent here," said Tony Benford, assistant men's basketball coach at the University of Nebraska. "We definitely saw some kids we liked."

Here are a few facts about Randy July that you might not know. He's a senior at Tahlequah Sequoyah High School where he plays both football and basketball for the Indians. He is the son of Randy Lee Sr. and Reta July of Tulsa, the grandson of the late Betty Ann (Deere) and Mose July of Tulsa. He is the great grandson of the late Hannah (Smith) and Wiley July of Checotah, and Lois (Greenwood) and Dean Deere of Eufaula. Randy is a member of the Deer Clan and his tribal town is Coushatta.

Here are a few things you might not know about the Native Elite Sports Showcase. The NES is growing every year with growing national exposure associated with the tournament. This year's competition was featured in the popular SLAM! basketball magazine and has a website set up with pictures and information on the two-day event. Barry Webster, the chairman of the Showcase Event, talked about the success of this year's tournament and what it takes for the Native American youth to make it to that level. "We had a great turn out with 44 kids from across the country and the response was great,"



said Webster. "The college coaches were impressed with the talent here and the event overall. We hope the message is out to Native student athletes that if you work hard, keep your grades up and get involved in your community you may someday participate in the N.E.S.

Showcase."

For July, many slam dunk titles are sure to follow, along with tremendous future success on the court. But for this year, he is the 2007 Showcase Slam Dunk King, and nobody else can say that.

Randy July Showcase

Randy July; left, is shown standing beside the trophy he won in the Slam Dunk Contest held at the Native Elite Showcase in Macy, Neb. For Randy this is the third Slam Dunk Trophy of the year, he was also the Slam Dunk Champion in the 4 Love of the Game March Madness All-Indian Tournament and was runner-up at the Amerind All-West Classic in Denver. This coming winter he will be a senior on the boys basketball team at Tahlequah Sequoyah High School, and will be looking to lead the Indians to their third third state championship game in the last five years.

Street hoopers look to razzle dazzle Indian country

• Popular playground ballers may be coming to town

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — You've seen them on ESPN. You've seen them on every major playground in the country. You've seen the jaw-dropping, electrifying basketball skills. Now it might be time to see them up close and personal. The Hustle Up Street Ball Tour is negotiating a trip to Indian country.

Since the inception of the AND1 Mixtape Tour, the playground brand of basketball showcased at these events has been a major hit in the U.S. Major cities turn out massive crowds in first-class arenas to see their favorite players do the unthinkable on the

basketball court. A new tour has grown out of this movement and is looking to gain steam in the communities of America, rather than just the large metropolitan areas.

The Hustle Up Street Ball Tour is currently in negotiations with 4 Love of the Game organization to bring the

razzle dazzle our way as part of the 5th Annual March Madness All-Indian tournament festivities in March. "Every year we try to do something new, something fun for the kids," said 4 Love of the Game board member David Pascale. "This is one of the most popular things going right now, so we thought why not?"

Players to look for in March will be big names like "The Professor," "Baby Shaq," "Violator," "Springs," and "Highrizer." Tentative dates are set for March 23-25, with a location to be named at a later date.



Nike introduces new shoe tailored to Native athletes

Press Release
Associated Press

BEAVERTON, Ore. — Nike today unveiled the Nike Air Native N7, a unique athletic performance shoe designed specifically for Native Americans. The Nike Air Native N7 is the result of nearly two years of collaborative research, development and fit testing in partnership with the Native American community.

This first-of-a-kind performance shoe is built on a new and unique last created to address the specific fit and width requirements for the Native American foot. The result is a true Native fitting, performance product.

The Nike Air Native N7 shoe marks



McCracken

another milestone in Nike's long-standing commitment to Native American communities. Profits from the sale of the Nike Air Native N7 will support "Let Me Play" programs on Native American lands that leverage sport to promote an active and healthy lifestyle.

The Nike Air Native N7 shoe also embraces Nike's Considered design ethos, where details in the development and design of the shoe are geared to deliver sustainable innovation and reduce waste, without compromising product performance. The Considered design ethos also honors the traditional Native American Seventh Generation philosophy, an approach that respects the impact of decisions made today on seven generations. The shoe's design draws inspiration directly

from Native American culture.

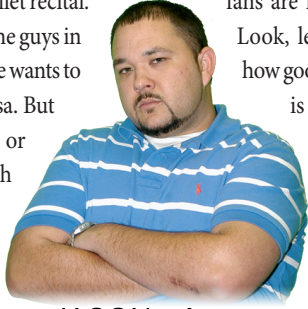
The Nike Air Native N7 shoe and "Let Me Play" programs deepen Nike's long-term commitments to challenge and address some of the specific health and wellness issues that exist within Native American communities. A strong emphasis was placed on providing a performance product that would cater to the specific needs of Native American foot shapes and help provide motivation to Native Americans predisposed to, or suffering from, health issues that can be improved by leading physically active lifestyles.

According to Nike Native American Business Program Manager Sam McCracken, this allows the company a continued voice in the advancement of Native American communities.

HOT CORNER

Well folks let's get right down to business, because there is a lot the 'ole Sals has to get off his chest this month.

I'm going to start a little mild and work my way up to the boiling point. I just figured that would be the best route for entertainment's sake. What hasn't went wrong for my sports psyche here in the last few weeks? The answer is next to nothing. A forgettable major league baseball season in St. Louis is finally over and I get to watch the MLB playoffs with about the same level of interest I would have at a ballet recital. Part of me wants to blame the guys in the clubhouse and part of me wants to blame skipper Tony LaRussa. But really, not to make excuses or anything, there wasn't much karma on the side of the Redbirds this season. It's not the players fault that the training room was more packed than a can of sardines. I have never seen a team deal with more adversity in my entire life. Honestly, let's look at the grocery list of injuries and setbacks; Cy Young award winner and ace pitcher Chris Carpenter makes all of two starts and will miss half of '08 while recovering from Tommy John surgery. Scott Rolen, perennial gold glove and all-star third baseman, couldn't shake a torn shoulder labrum and was put on the shelf. '06 World Series MVP David Eckstein was never healthy and his bad back kept his production to a minimal level. Center fielder Jimmy Edmonds' back wouldn't let him make the plays and drive in the runs that he is accustomed to. And to think, all that and we still pulled it to within one game of the lead with a month to go. That surge was due in large part to the re-emergence of Rick Ankiel as a bona-fide power hitting juggernaut. Then came the expected witch-hunt news that baseball has become. He did it with the help of human growth hormones. After this news Ankiel went in the tank and so did the Cards. The season was over. But all of those things combined were not as costly, devastating and tragic as the death of pitcher Josh Hancock. Hancock died after his SUV collided with a parked tow truck as he was driving home after a few too many at the bar. He had pitched in a day game earlier. His death put the Cardinals in focus, and resulted in a look at the way Major League baseball facilitates



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alcohol in the clubhouse. They subsequently banned alcohol in the clubhouse after games. Any way you slice it, things were very tough in '07 for the boys that wear the bird on the bat. Hopefully this off-season, everyone can re-group, catch their breath and get a new start. That will probably mean a few new faces in the dugout.

And if thats not quite enough, did anybody catch OU phoning it in at Colorado? I sure did, and guess what it's something i'm used to by now and I think a lot of Sooners fans are frankly sick and tired of it. Look, let's start shutting up about how good OU is and how this offense is the greatest and the defense is scary good. Whatever! If you can't go beat a team that will probably finish 9th out of 12 teams in the conference, you dont have room to say you are anything. Why cant we just wait til the end of the year to tell these guys how good they are? Why do we have to shower praise on a team that had one of the worst non-conference schedules I've ever seen? Bet nobody's talking about how good they are now. No, the talk is, what happened? The coaches stink! Our defense is pitiful! And it's all comical to me. You think OU can play teams like Utah State and North Texas and really get a gauge of where they're at? Give me a break! When was the last time OU won a big game? It's ok i'll wait.....Maybe 2004 against Texas. I'm not even sure that was a big win, and for crying out loud that was three years ago. But the Sooners have lost to Kansas State, who was about a 20 point underdog at the time. And they've lost to Boise State, which might be the most embarrassing loss in college football history. And TCU. And now comes Colorado, who won two games last year! All the pieces were in place right, the stars were aligned. What a great team! They're scoring over 50 points a game! Well, it's easy to do that against Nowhere State and Blind School Tech. I'm sick of this perceived notion that you get accolades before you have even done anything. I bought into it too, though. The media is a strong outlet. So strong that it can manipulate you, give you this false sense of accomplishment. I don't care what the players and coaches say in Norman, they need to quit listening to the media, and believing the hype.

SPORTS

4 Love of the Game announces schedule of events

• “Day of Champions” to offer football, softball, baseball, and strength/conditioning camps to ‘08 calendar

HENRYETTA — In order to better serve and increase participation of Native American Youth, 4 Love of the Game officially announces its schedule for the 2007-2008 academic school year.

5TH ANNUAL WARRIORS SHOWCASE SHOOTOUT

The Annual Warriors’ Showcase Shootout has been held during Thanksgiving Weekend for the past four years. Last year’s 4th Annual Warriors’ Showcase Shootout was held November 24-25, 2006 in Henryetta. The tournament featured 51 boys and girls teams made up of young, talented, Native American basketball All-Stars from ages five to 14 years old throughout Oklahoma. Over 2,000 families, friends and avid fans witnessed the play of future hardwood stars!

The 5th Annual Warriors Showcase Shootout will be held on Nov. 23-25, 2007 in Henryetta. The age divisions are: 5-6 (co-ed), 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14. The entry fee for 5-6 and 7-8 is \$75 and 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14 is \$100.

The deadline is Nov. 12 by 5 p.m. Late entry deadline is Nov. 16 by 5 p.m. (add \$25). Entry forms can be downloaded at www.4loveofthegame.org or call (918) 289-9211, (918) 261-2315 or (918) 650-3920.

5TH ANNUAL ALL-INDIAN MARCH MADNESS TOURNAMENT

The Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament is held during Oklahoma’s state spring break. Last

year’s tournament was held March 21-25, 2007 in Henryetta. At the 2007 4th Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament, over 300 Native American high school student/athletes participated in the five-day event. Thirty-nine teams came from numerous communities throughout Oklahoma, as well as Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Mississippi.

The 5th Annual All-Indian March Madness Tournament will be held March 19-23, 2008 in Henryetta. The entry fee is \$250. The deadline is March 3, 2008 by 5 p.m. The late entry deadline is March 7, 2008 by 5 p.m. (add \$50).

23RD ANNUAL ALL-WEST CLASSIC

Since 2005, 4 Love of the Game and a group of Native American High School hoops stars make a 12-hour journey from Okmulgee to Denver, Colorado to compete in the All-West Classic. The 2007 Amerind 22nd Annual All-West Native American Basketball tournament was held on April 20-22, 2007 at the Gold Crown Fieldhouse. Out of a field of 46 teams, 26 boys and 20 girls teams, 4 Love of the Game captured the Gold in the girls division, while the boys fell short in a hard fought overtime loss to the Oglala Lakota Regulators in the championship game.

Dates of the tournament have not been set. The dates will be officially announced, along with the players selected from the March Madness Tournament, at the formal awards banquet. Only those

who participate in the March Madness Tournament are eligible for selection to the 4 Love of the Game boys and girls team.

6TH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN BASKETBALL INVITATIONAL

Tabbed as the largest NCAA certified all Native American Basketball Tournament, the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) was held July 9-14, 2007 in Phoenix Arizona. The same group that garnered a first and second place finish at the All-West Classic traveled to Phoenix to compete in the 5th Annual Native American Basketball Invitational. 85 teams competed for the NABI Championship. Along the way, both teams received free exposure in front of countless college scouts and played in the semi-finals and finals on an official NBA and WNBA court, the home of the Phoenix Suns and Phoenix Mercury, U.S. Airways Center.

NABI on July 11- 13, 2003 at the America West Arena in Phoenix, Arizona with Nike and Phoenix Suns as presenting sponsors. The vision of NABI tournament was to provide a spark that ignited Native American youth to set their sights higher, make the most of their potential and reach their dreams through sports and educational opportunities. The tournament featured 24 teams from across the U.S. and Canada.

During the 5th Annual NABI tournament, both teams posted an undefeated record in the pool play and received #1 seeds in both the boys and girls single elimination bracket. Both teams advanced to the final four bracket that was played at the U.S. Airways Center. The two teams advanced to the finals

with a 83 - 74 victory (4 Love of the Game Girls vs. Rez Girls) and a 94 - 80 victory (4 Love of the Game Boys vs. Yakima Nation). In the finals, the 4 Love of the Game girls edged 4 Kornerz by a score of 56 -54! Angel Goodrich was named the MVP and her sister, Nikki Lewis, was named to the All-Tournament Team. The 4 Love of the Game Boys lost a hard fought battle to Cheyenne/Arapaho by a final score of 74 - 66. Both of the finals games were televised on the Phoenix local cable network.

The 6th Annual NABI tournament is scheduled for July 21-26, 2008. Again, only those who participate in the March Madness Tournament are eligible for selection to the 4 Love of the Game boys and girls team.

DAY OF CHAMPIONS

4 Love of the Game has formed a partnership with the 14 Foundation and Day of Champions to offer a very invaluable experience for our Native American student/athletes. “Day of Champions” has assembled an all-star staff of former and current college/ NFL players and coaches, such as Josh Heupel, Rocky Calmus, Ken Heupel and Nickie Engelbrecht to direct a highly skilled, motivational, and instructional football and softball camp.

Both day camps focus on teaching the principles of successful leadership by setting the discipline, then establishing respect, trust and hard work.

The softball camp was held June 30-July 1 at Bateman Park in Okmulgee. The football camp was held July 2-4 at Dewar High School.

The biggest positive of these camps is the exposure the campers will receive.

The earlier you are seen by a college of professional scout the better your chances of being offered a college scholarship. Education is the most important asset to the overall success of our youth!

At the end of each camp the staff held an autograph signing and photograph session for all the participants and their families. Lunch was provided for each day of the camps and three college stipends per camp were awarded to the outstanding campers. Also, each softball camper received a new softball glove and each football camper received an official “Day of Champions” football.

Next year’s football camps are scheduled for June 30 - July 2 in Holdenville and July 3 - July 5 in Dewar. The softball camp will be held in June of 2008. The first 125 applicants will be accepted.

4 Love of the Game is currently planning a “Day of Champions” baseball camp and physical performance camp. When details become final, 4 Love of the Game will make a formal announcement through various media outlets.

4 Love of the Game would like to thank all the volunteers, sponsors and Native American communities for helping make the organization a success. However, this wouldn’t be possible without the support and cooperation of Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill and the National Council. They were very instrumental and have actively supported the future of our Native American youth, not only in Creek country, but the whole nation.

SPORTSCOLUMN

So here’s the deal. I am very proud to be a reporter in this day in age and in September I heard of a coach who was bashing one of my own kind. Well, after reading the article and listening to the press conference, I have to applaud Coach Mike Gundy of the Oklahoma State Cowboys.

Coach Gundy took it upon himself to stand up for his players and put his reputation on the line just to take up for one of his players. I think we need more coaches like Gundy in this world. Just the other day I was at Boone Pickens Stadium in the Hall of Fame and who did I see walking down the hallway, it was Coach Gundy. I proceeded to ask him how he was doing and he pleasantly responded, “just fine.”

You know I have never been an OSU fan in all my life, but after seeing how Coach Gundy handles himself and how his willingness to stand up for his players comes first. Kudos to Coach Gundy.

Even though at first I thought Coach Gundy was bashing reporters, I have a new found respect for him. I think if sports teams across the nation had coaches that were willing to stand up for what is right, then more teams would play better. I know I always played better when I knew I had support from my coaches.

Well, enough about that. I think it is time to shift gears just a bit. On Sunday, I went golfing for the second time in four years. When I was younger I used to play on the golf team at Henryetta, but when I got to high school, golf got moved to the back burner in my life. Being out on that course again the other day brought back such good memories of me getting mad and throwing clubs down the fairway. This day was different, I had no anger when I was playing. I am not sure if that was because I was playing with guys from my church or maybe I had matured some over the years. Probably a little of both.

The day started out great as my first drive was crisp and straight down the fairway. These types of shot didn’t stop. Throughout the day, I continued to maintain a fair game and also kept a hold on my temper. Not one club was thrown, nor one ball lost. I started the day with a brand new package of golf balls and by the end of the day I still had the first ball that I used. That has never happend to me before. I always get down to the last holes and get nervous because I don’t want to run out.

I think golf is going to make its way back into a regular part of my life. After talking to some of my elders, I have realized that golf is the perfect sport. A person could go out by themselves and play all day without anyone bothering them, but if they were in the mood for some company, they could invite a few buddies to go along.

Since I am being honest, the main reason I want to continue playing golf is because my wife will not let me have a motorcycle, but she is all for me getting a golf cart. I guess a golf cart is better than nothing. Maybe one day it will be as cool to drive a golf cart as it is to drive a motorcycle.



NICHOLAS HOWK
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Basketball Triple-Header to give \$5,000 Scholarships to two high school native athletes

• Native American All-Stars Will Play Prior to 66ers Game

TULSA — One arena, six teams, three games, two very special scholarships, and one ticket.

Native American high school basketball will share the floor with the NBA’s future stars Friday, March 14, 2008, as the Tulsa 66ers play host to the “Tulsa 66ers Native American All-Star Classic,” featuring Oklahoma Native American high school basketball All-Stars and NBA D-League action, all at Expo Square Pavilion. The Minority Humanitarian Foundation, Inc. is co-sponsoring the event. For more information or for sponsorship opportunities, contact Cathy Wilkins at 918.296.9177 or e-mail execdirector@mhfgive.org. Your donation is tax deductible

Amid the night’s basketball action, two deserving high school seniors will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. One male and one female Native American senior basketball athlete will be awarded the Tulsa 66ers’ inaugural “Oklahoma Native American Basketball Scholarship.”

Tickets will be sold at \$10 each, with \$2 from each sale going back to fund the scholarship. Each ticket purchased can be used for admission into the Girls All-Star game, Boys All-Star game, as well as the Tulsa 66ers home game. NIKE will provide the uniforms for the students.

The Native American All-Star Girls teams will take the court at 4 p.m. to tip off the day’s action. Then, the Native American All-Star Boys teams will tip off at 5 p.m. The basketball does not stop there. The Tulsa 66ers will battle Coach Bob Huffman and the Rio Grande Valley Vipers for the fourth time at home this season at 7 p.m.

“Oklahoma alone has a tremendous basketball his-

tory,” said Jono Helmerich, Tulsa 66ers president. “We are honored to bring together basketball with the outstanding Native American All-Stars teams to the Pavilion.”

The Tulsa 66ers have would also like to announce local player tryouts on October 20 and 21, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday afternoon by invitation only, at the Broken Arrow Community Center, located at 1500 S. Main St., Broken Arrow, Okla., 74012.

The 66ers local player tryouts offer athletes an opportunity to showcase their talents in front of the Tulsa 66ers coaching staff, including head coach, Joey Meyer and his assistant coaches, where players will compete to earn an invitation to the team’s training camp, which will begin in

early November.

Last year’s camp saw over 150 campers participate. Of the 150 campers, 30 campers advanced to the final session to compete for a spot at our training camp and the chance to be a part of the 66ers. Two participants in all received NBA D-League contracts and countless other participants went on to play professionally, both in the states and overseas respectively.

Applicants may pre-register by submitting the official registration, disclosure and release forms, in addition to a \$125 non-refundable fee by October 12, 2007. Tryouts are limited to the first 200 players and payments may be made by cash, check or credit card (Visa and Mastercard only). Application forms are available at www.tulsa66ers.com.

Celebrating



Council Oak Tree Ceremony

Saturday, October 20, 2007

2 P.M.

18th St. & S. Cheyenne ~ Tulsa, OK

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Was Coach Gundy’s response to the news article out of line?

GERALD WOFFORD

No, I don’t think it was and I’ll tell you why. This is the game of football, it’s not jacks or a game of chess. Emotion is one of the main ingredients of this competitive sport and passion is the main octane to play well.

Gundy’s verbal outtage, which was actually after an OSU win, will probably do his team some needed good, after all, a group of people can get fired up

when their leader is taking on the masses like that.

Perhaps Gundy is beginning to find himself as a coach as well. That charged up response was often part of his game plan when he was a quarterback at the same school and he would get in the face of his opponents-hopefully it will do some good for his team now.

NICHOLAS HOWK

As I mention in my sports column, I do agree with how Coach Gundy handled himself in the press conference. Reporters sometimes have this attitude that they can get away with anything and not have to face any consequences. They hide behind editors and they let them take all of the heat.

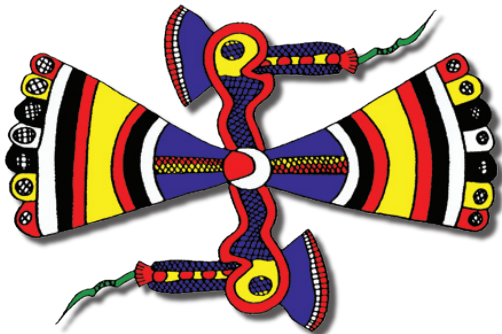
Coach Gundy has every right in the world to say what he said. If you were to take a look at the article

and put yourself in his shoes, I am sure that a similar reaction would be expected. College athletes are just playing at the amateur level and who can expect them to be perfect.

I know that after this whole scene of events that I, a reporter, am going to start paying more close attention to what I right because I don’t think I could handle a chewing out like that other reporter took.

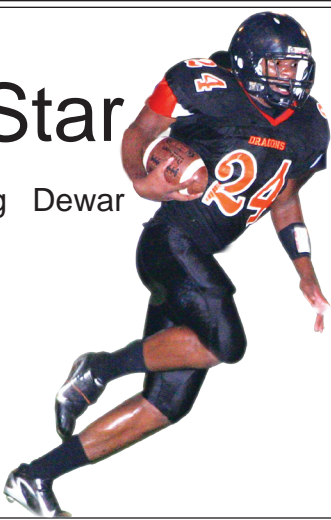
Council Oak Ceremony

Council Oak, a look at the past
FEATURES B1



Gridiron Star

Creek athlete leading Dewar
back to the top
SPORTS - B7



MUSCOGEE NATION
NEWS

NOVEMBER, 2007
Volume 37, Issue 10
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Election under protest

• Candidate Tiger files petition on Friday, Nov. 9, 2007



Spirits were high all week long among A.D. Ellis supporters while they waited for the election to be final. It looks like they will be waiting a while longer to find out for sure who will lead the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as principal chief for the next four years.

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CALL FOR
Vote Recount

Tension was high on the night of November 3, 2007. Votes were being counted and the results were the closest in Muscogee (Creek) Nation history in the race for principal chief. So close in fact that George Tiger filed a petition for a recount of the votes. "I was encouraged by many tribal members to file the petition," said George Tiger. "I also received a lot of financial support to make this happen. I used the week of the filing period to meet with family to talk and pray about this decision. This is about the nation, not just me and Chief Ellis." Recounting of the votes begins on November 16, 2007 at 9 a.m. in the Mound Auditorium.

MNN/Nicholas Howk

Marines gather to greet Commandant of Marine Corp, Four Star General Conway

by Mallory Bible
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Sept. 14 Chief Ellis wrote a letter to the Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps Four Star General Conway praising the relationship between the Fort Sill U.S. Marines and Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The commandant responded favorably to the letter and committed to be here on November 2nd. Plans were made with Governor Brad Henry by Chief Ellis to bring the Commandant down to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Complex from Tulsa in helicopters, that where provide by the National Guard, to view the new veterans building.

After a month of preparation, planning and making of the flag for this one historic day, the commandant's aid called to inform Mr. Ken Davis, Veterans Affairs Director, that the trip had been canceled. After being informed of the disappointing, and heartbreaking news Sgt. Maj. Booker USMC and Colonel Campbell USMC insisted on coming up to fill the void of the Commandant.

Muscogee marine veterans came from all over Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Texas, Kansas and one from North Carolina. GySgt. Tyndle who



MNN/Mallory Bible

Muscogee Marines pose in front of new veterans building with a special made flag that was to honor the Commandant.

came regardless of the Commandant not being here, he still wanted to be with the other Marines.

"After serving World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq, We Marines have kept our commitment and shown up, If we say we are going to be there, We will be there!" Spoken by a Marine who served our country and continues to serve our veterans.

After the disappointing news the marines continued with their gathering. While in forma-

tion, Chief A.D. Ellis inspected each Marine honoring them and apologizing to them.

"It touched us, the fact that our Chief was out there inspecting us it meant the world to us", said Mr. Davis.

Davis plans to contact the General of the Army, the General of Air Force, the Admiral of the Navy and the Admiral of the Coast Guard in hope they will come down to see and to honor the Muscogee veterans. As a Marine he wants to do all he can to make that happen for them. Even though the Commandant did not come down to see them, the Muscogee Marines would love to do everything they can to watch the Admiral or General greet their veterans.



MNBE helps reduce crime rate in housing additions

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE – Although many Muscogee (Creek) Nation housing additions may seem to be safe, in some areas the crime rate among several of them has been over 90 percent. In recent months, Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Technology Services has come into play in helping to drop these high crime rates.

MNBE began this project on the Taylor Drive housing addition in Okmulgee by designing and installing surveillance systems to allow the addition to monitor activities going on and to help detour anyone who may be committing illegal actions. This system was designed to be monitored at the remote housing location and also be monitored at the main Housing Office in Okmulgee.

SEE MNBE - A5



"We put together a design for housing to monitor all five location. They liked it, put it out to bid and we won the job"

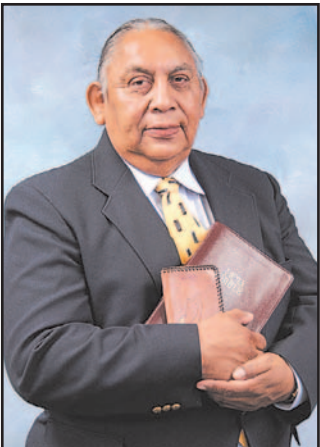
— B.J. Waggner —

2007 run-off election results

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis 2,313 George Tiger 2,292	National Council-Okmulgee Seat D R.M. Bo Johnson 463 Carmin Tecumseh 718
National Council-Creek Seat B Larry J. Cahwee 307 Craig Mosquito 266	National Council-Tukvpytce Shirlene M. Ade 322 Sylvanna Caldwell 161
National Council-McIntosh Seat B Adam Jones, III 369 Anthony Notaro 307	National Council-Tulsa Seat A Ronald A. Cleghorn 355 Larry L. Oliver 291
National Council-Okmulgee Seat A Robert W. Jones 485 David Nichols 691	National Council-Tulsa Seat F Brent Beaver 224 Kara Medina 421
National Council-Okmulgee Seat B Keeper Johnson 745 Wilbert Lowe 434	National Council-Wagoner Seat A Barbara Gillespie 115 Johnnie Greene 131
National Council-Okmulgee Seat C Terrie Anderson 618 Glenn Jones 557	

EXECUTIVE

From the Office of the Second Chief



Second Chief Berryhill

Instead of my usual Second Opinion I would like to take this opportunity to

bring to every ones attention a couple of the problems that our citizens encounter.

Years ago, many of our elders did not enroll in the tribe for one reason or another. Now that many of them are leaving us, it creates a problem for the family in getting the burial and food assistance as set up by the tribe. When this happens, the family is burdened with proving the deceased's lineage. It would be wise, if you expect to be the designee in tending to the burial plans of your elders, to make sure they are enrolled before anything happens so you aren't faced with this problem during this difficult time.

Another concern that all of us

should be aware of is for our children. At the Chief's Annual Church's Meeting this past weekend, Steve Wahnee from Children and Family Services expressed a great need for Native foster parents. Many of our Creek children, when taken from their parents, are placed with non-Indian families. This should never happen, but until enough citizens step up, it will continue. If you have access to a computer, go to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation website and watch the church's meeting to get the full impact and contact Children and Family Services to apply for foster parenthood.

I hope you all have a very happy Thanksgiving.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re Validation of the Marriage of BERRYHILL)	
)	
)	
)	
	)	Case Number <u>CV-2007-81</u>
Janice Berryhill,)	
Petitioner)	

PUBLICATION NOTICE FOR HEARING ON
PETITIONER'S PETITION FOR VALIDATION OF TRIBAL MARRIAGE

TAKE NOTICE that Janice Berryhill has filed a Petition for Validation of a Tribal Marriage in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. CV-2007-81, styled Inre Validation of the Marriage of Berryhill, Janice Berryhill, Petitioner. The Petitioner seeks District Court validation fo her tribally solemnized marriage to Thomas Paul Berryhill, Jr, on May 25, 1991, as performed by Mekko Raymond Meely at the ApkV Ceremonial Grounds in accordance with the ancient customs and traditions of the Mvskoke people. This is a question of first impression for the Court. This matter is being published to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation society at large. Anyone wishing to speak in favor of or in objection to this request to validate this tribally solemnized marriagemust appear the hearing acheduled for the 26th day of November 2007 at 1:30 o'clock p.m. Failure to attend will result in the allegations contained in the Peition being taken as true and judgment will be entered in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her Petition.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Marriage of:)	
)	
Tiffany Renee Miller,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
and	)	Case No. <u>D-2007-15</u>
)	
Matthew Guy Miller,	)	Judge Patrick E. Moore
	)	Judge of the District Court
Respondent)	

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Matthew Guy Miller

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued ofr divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2007-15, styled In re the Mattiage of Tiffany Renee Miller, Pettioner and Matthew Guy Miller, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a Decree of Dissolution of Marriage from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must anser the Petitioner filed by the petitioner on or before the 16th day of December, 2007, or appear at the hearing on the 9th day of January 2007 at 9:00 Oclock a.m. Failure to repond and /or attend will result in the allegations contained in the Petition being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her Petition.

Given under my hand and seal this 31st day of October, 2007.
Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

District Court Filings for September 2007

Civil:	
Western Finance v. Rhondrea Teaque	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance Co. Inc., v. Elliot Berryhill	Foreign Judgment
Loan Plus v. Sammi Marshall	
Small Claims	
Loan Plus v. Shana Scheurer	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Chester McGirt	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance Co. Inc., v. David Proctor	Foreign Judgment
Paula & Theo Hallman v. Bristow Muscogee Indian Community; Jane Doe #1; and John Doe #1	Petition
Star Loans of Texas v. Linette Washington	Small Claims
Star Loans of Texas v. Ronald Bush	Small Claims
B&B Loans v. Dawna Dutchy	Small Claims
Interstate Mgmt. Co. DBA Riverbank Plaza Apts., v. Bonnie Wise	Foreign Judgment
In Re: Application of Rhonda Kay Beaver, as Parent And Nest Friend of ICLG, a Minior for Change of Name	Petition
B&B Loans v. Whitney Miller	Small Claims
Americas Car Mart Inc., DBA Car Mart of Shawnee v. Winey West	Small Claims
Krystal Cook v. Kareffren Bagby	Petition
Divorce:	
Amber dozier v. Andrae Dozier	Divorce
Jackson Barnett v. Lora Barnett	Divorce
Pamela Severs v. John Severs	Divorce
FAMILY DOMESTIC:	
TCSS, ex rel., Susann Combs v. Glen Stamile	Petition to Register
District Court Order	
Protective Orders:	
Harry Perryman v. Rhol Perryman	Ex-Parte
Harry Perryman v. Malissa Napier	Ex-Parte
Jerry Klein v. Waddie Leybas	Ex-Parte
Tina Smith v. Waddie Leybas	Ex-Parte
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. James Brown	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Jacob Mosquito	Ct. 1: Embezzlement, Theft & False Accounts

False Accounts
MCN v. Rodney McDoulett
MCN v. Jeremiah Mabry

MCN v. Lawanna Jones-Beaver
MCN v. James Peebles
MCN v. Jason Hurst

Criminal Misdemeanors:
MCN v. James Lowe
Traffic
MCN v. Jerald Parks
MCN v. Demarco Beck
MCN v. Cody Carrigan
MCN v. Marcelina Johnson
MCN v. Rodney McPherson
MCN v. Terrence Todd
MCN v. Terrence Todd
MCN v. Lorelei Wilbum
MCN v. Lorelei Wilbum
MCN v. Lorelei Wilbum
MCN v. Patrick Lewis
MCN v. Keidan Dotson
MCN v. Teresa Nice
MCN v. Clint Baggett
MCN v. Clint Baggett
MCN v. Clint Baggett
Driving without a License
MCN v. Roberta Underwood
MCN v. Danny Johnson
MCN v. Anthony Fermo
MCN v. Anthony Fermo
MCN v. Ryan Matney
MCN v. Derek York
MCN v. Vien Than
MCN v. Michael Gilbert
MCN v. Latoya Sims
MCN v. Latoya Sims
MCN v. Keeley Johnson
Required Registration

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Editor:

I wanted to thank you for the wonderful publication you put out that keeps my family up to date with our Nation. We live in Seattle, and don't get back there much. I enjoy reading each and every issue.

I wanted to respond to the article by the Language preservations manager in the June 2007 issue. First it's great we are connecting with the Alabama Creeks, I was able to get to the Hickory Grounds in the mid 90's and found a huge field full of what looked like Wild Onions to me! I sure hope they are not putting the casino in the middle of that clearing. (What a neat thing, the original place of the Green Onion Busk!)

I was also excited about the botanical identification of Possum Grapes. BUT you might want to nail down the scientific name for plants! There is indeed a wild indigenous grape that grows in the Eastern U.S. called "possum grapes" after an Internet search you will find the scientific name is Vitis rotundifolia, and it's actually the state fruit of North Carolina! (It may have been what the Vikings found when they landed in Labrador, hence their name for the place "Vineland". They had more global warming than we do now, and it grew further North in those days!)

The Virginia Creeper has a totally different scientific name, and BEWARE!!! Those berries are POISONOUS. Please don't anyone make grape dumplings out of Virginia Creeper berries! Maybe the folks in Alabama really don't know Virginia Creeper from wild grapes, but it's time we all learned I guess!
Christie Schultz, Grayson Clan, Brementon, WA.

Editor:

I would like to respond to the article published under (Letter to the Editor A-3 Citizen Voice Concern) from D. L. Jr.

D.L. Jr. I am a Muscogee Creek Citizen B.I.A. card and I live in the state of California. You should be ashamed of yourself, using Califor-

nia Muscogee Creeks to batter the Chief of "Our Nation." Whoever enlightened you (and I know as a fact your statement is false) provided you with false and misleading information.

The Muscogee Creeks living outside of the state of Oklahoma who have B.I.A. roll numbers and are citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation contribute through federal funding to our nation and as far as I know, Blood Quantum does not have any bearing on how much moneys that are paid to the Creek Nation from the Federal Government and we who living in other states within the US of America and have our roll numbers are counted and our money is used by all of you living in the state of Oklahoma. Please !! Explain to us how we receive is that we can vote for our Dignitaries within our Muscogee (Creek) Nation elections. THAT IS THE ONLY BENEFITS ANY OF US GETS. And I believe we have the right to VOTE after all, We contribute moneys. We here keep an eye on what our elected officials are doing and this newspaper is very helpful in this case, and keeps us informed. I would like to say thank you to the Muscogee Creek news.

Sincerely,
Opal Jones, Bakersfield, CA.

Editor:

I want to thank the Creek Nation Housing, I would like to thank Mrs. Kermeta Harris, Tony Lowe, Eppco Construction and all the people who had worked on my home.

Thank you for all the hard work. Thank you for all the new plumbing, electrical work and for my new roof.

Thank you painters, my house is new and beautiful. Again thank you for the much needed improvements.

Sincerely,
Johnnie (Marks) Barrett, Morris, OK.

EDITOR'S NOTE:
The article on page one in October's issue regarding Justice Harjo-Ware was not a sit down interview conducted by the MNN Staff, it was excerpts the Dissenting Opinion Of Justice Harjo-Ware of the Supreme Court's Opinion. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Ct. 2: Embezzlement, Theft &

Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs with Intent to Distribute
Ct. 1: Fraud f False Pretenses
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs Paraphernalia

Ct. 1: Public Intoxication

Disorderly Conduct
DUS
Expired Tag
No Drivers License
No Tag
Expired Tag
No Insurance
Expired Tag
No Insurance
DUS
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
Expired Tag
No Insurance
Expired Tag

No Insurance
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DUS
Expired Tag
Disorderly Conduct
No Insurance
DUS
Driving without

Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LEGISLATIVE

From the Desk of the Speaker



Tiger

HE(N)SCI !!!

As our thoughts turn to the beginning of the holiday seasons, I extend Happy Thanksgiving greetings to all of our tribal members.

While our thoughts turn to observ-

ing Veterans Day, I think of our young men and women in the Armed Service serving our country. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has a proud history of having outstanding representation in all branches of service. Let's keep them in our thoughts and prayers!

It's amazing how our "Warriors" never hesitate to answer the call. It is only fitting the Executive and Legislative branches recognize the importance of working together to have a building that honors our heroes. If you have an opportunity I encourage everyone to visit the Veterans building and take a tour, you will not be disappointed. The work being done through our Veterans Affairs office is outstanding and I commend them for their efforts.

This has been one of the most interesting elections in the history of

the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Each candidate must be commended for their interest in their Nation. Since the filing period in July, the election season consisted of a record number of forums hosted by communities through out our Nation, as well as forums in California and Texas. The National Council, Second Chief and Principal Chief Office positions had a record number of candidates. I believe our tribal members saw an advantage in having choices due to the number of candidates.

Congratulations to the elected officials and I want to encourage everyone to support them. Let's remember to encourage each of them and remember them in our prayers.

Thank you for your continued words of encouragement and until next month MVTO!

Riverside Indian Smoke Shop hold their Grand Opening



TULSA— The Riverside Indian Smoke Shop, an Enterprise of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community, held a Grand Opening Sunday evening September 9, to celebrate the opening of their new facility and also celebrating TCIC's \$125,000 loan pay-off to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, which TCIC had received as start-up funds last October.

TCIC would like to thank those who attended: Chief and Mrs. A.D. Ellis; Council Reps. Sam Alexander, Paula Willits, Cherrah Quiett and

James Jennings; T.J. Conrad from the Tulsa Casino; TCIC Board of Directors, members, friends and R.I.S.S. employees.

They opened for business October 29, 2006, one day after the former management vacated the smoke shop. They have been in operation for 11 months.

The Smoke Shop was also chosen as "Smoke Shop of the Year" as voted on by readers of the Tulsa publication Urban Tulsa Weekly.

The Smoke Shop is operated by

TCIC's Business Board consisting of: Vice Chair Toske Willits, Sec/Treas. Jane Cornell, S-at-A John Freeman and Chairman June Mustari, with Smoke Shop Manager Karen Goodson who is largely responsible for our current success, plus we have a great group of employees.

The Smoke Shop welcomes everyone in and for your shopping. They have other plans in the works too. They are a great contributor to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

COBELL HISTORICAL ACCOUNTING WRAPS UP

Indianz.com

Associated press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — After just 10 full days of testimony, the trial into the Indian trust fund historical accounting concluded in Washington, D.C., on Thursday.

Judge James Robertson, who was assigned the case last December, called the trial in April. At the time, he said it would "continue as long as necessary," indicating a potentially long haul that could rival prior proceedings in the 11-year-old case.

Those expectations quickly faded as Robertson, throughout the trial, urged the government and the Cobell plaintiffs to keep their presentations short and to the point. It also helped that the judge decided not to visit the Interior Department's Indian records repository in Kansas as he earlier envisioned.

The speedy pace appeared to surprise both parties. Earlier this week, the Cobell team, after presenting their first witness on Monday, predicted the trial would end by Thursday or Friday.

The government and the plaintiffs now have until November 30 to present

their final arguments. But just what Robertson will do next is anybody's guess.

"He's so hard to read," a visitor to the courtroom said earlier this week.

The Bush administration wants Robertson to keep his hands off the case so that the Interior Department can finish its historical accounting. The latest plan, issued in May, calls for the project to be finished by the end of 2011.

Jim Cason, the associate deputy secretary at Interior who was the government's primary witness, testified that the "2007 plan is a continuation of the work that we have already accomplished, and the 2007 plan is a road map of the activities that we plan to undertake to finish this job."

The Cobell plaintiffs want Robertson to keep a close eye on Interior. They say it's impossible for the historical accounting to be complete due to missing records, inaccurate data and destroyed documents.

"What that means is that the accounting balances cannot be confirmed," Paul Homan, a banker who was the very first Special Trustee for American Indians,

testified.

According to his earlier court order, Robertson plans to determine whether the accounting plan satisfies fiduciary trust standards and whether the accounting was "unreasonably" delayed. He has been concerned about the limits and exclusions the Bush administration has placed on the project.

"This trial is about the adequacy of the accounting," Robertson reiterated this week.

Robertson also wants to determine whether the government has cured the breaches of trust that were first identified by Judge Royce Lamberth back in December 1999. The D.C. Circuit of Appeals upheld that ruling in February 2001.

But Robertson has said he is guided by some over arching principals that were more recently articulated by the D.C. Circuit. One ruling blocks his court from dictating the details of the government's plans and another requires him to be mindful of the funding limits imposed by Congress.

NIGA OPPOSES NIGC'S LATEST CLASS II REGULATIONS

Indianz.com

Associated press

The National Indian Gaming Association opposes Class II regulations that were published in the Federal Register on Wednesday.

NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens Jr., said the rules would hurt tribal economies. "The most basic problem is that the new regulations arbitrarily slow down

Class II games, making them less fun and less marketable," he said, the Associated Press reported.

The National Indian Gaming Commission says the changes are needed in order to draw a "bright line" between Class II games like bingo and Class III games like slot machines. The proposed

rules require Class II games to play slower than Class III games and require a certain level of player participation.

Comments on the regulations are being accepted until December 10. The NIGC withdrew an earlier proposal after tribes complained it was getting too complex and burdensome.

National Council Attorney Elected to Best Lawyer's in America

National Council attorney Geoffrey M. Standing Bear has again been selected by his peers for inclusion in "The Best Lawyers" in America. Science its inception in 1983, "Best Lawyers" has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence in the United States.

Because "Best Lawyers" is based on an exhaustive peer-review survey of leading attorneys throughout the country who vote on the legal abilities of other lawyer, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, inclusion in "Best Lawyers" is considered a singular honor. "Best Lawyers" has been regarded – by both the profession and the public – as the definitive guide to legal excellence in the United States.

Recognized as a specialist in Indi-

an law, he has also been sought by many well recognized companies as trial counsel, including Wal-Mart, General Motors Corporation and State Farm Insurance Company. Standing Bear's active trial practice includes criminal defense in addition to civil litigation.

Standing Bear is the great-grandson of Creek Original Allottee Walter D. Wright, and he has participated in several key historical court cases for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, including

the cases which led to the re-establishment of gaming, law enforcement and tribal courts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation during the 1980's. He served for several years beginning in 1982 as General Counsel of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and later was the attorney for the Gaming Operations Authority Board for 13 years before becoming the National Council attorney.



Standing Bear

U.S. moves to regulate Indians's video bingo

Associated press

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Aiming to rein in the booming Indian gambling industry the government is trying to make sure electronic bingo machines at tribal casinos can't masquerade as Las Vegas-style slots.

Slot machines are more lucrative for tribes and more attractive to players, but they are subject to state approval and limits. Video bingo isn't.

The basic difference is that slot machines involve a gambler interacting only with a single machine, whereas video bingo requires gamblers to play one another over a network.

As tribes increasingly supplement their slot-machine allotments with video bingo, manufacturers have produced electronic bingo machines that are virtually indistinguishable from slots-spinning reels, blinking lights and all. That allows tribes to draw in more players and make more money. A "bright line"

But it has caused the federal National Indian Gaming Commission to worry that tribes are effectively skirting the law's limits on slot machines.

New rules the commission proposed Wednesday aim to make it more clear to customers when they are playing bingo rather than a slot machine. Play at the bingo machines would be slowed, more players would have to participate and the machines would have to be labeled as bingo rather than slots.

Commission Chairman Phil Hogen said the proposed regulations would clarify the distinction between Class II games-bingo and the like-and Class III games-slot machines and other Las Vegas-style games that

require state-tribal agreements called compacts.

"With the bright line that will be drawn when these regulations are finalized, tribes may confidently invest in equipment, lenders' concerns over challenges in this area will be allayed and tribes will have a clearer basis from which to negotiate with states for Class III compacts," Hogen said.

The proposed rule, which will be open for comment through Dec. 10, comes as tribal gambling has exploded into a \$25 billion -a-year industry and Indian tribes are looking for new ways to profit.

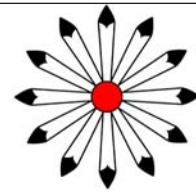
In states that don't allow tribes to run slot machines, or limit the number of slot machines tribes can have-video bingo has become a profitable alternative.

The rules proposed Wednesday were significantly weaker than regulations for video bingo the commission proposed last year, which ran fierce opposition from tribes warning of dire economic consequences. The commission withdrew that earlier proposal in face of the criticism.

But tribes weren't happy with the reworked version either, and neither were Indian casino critics.

Ernie Stevens Jr., Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association, contended that the rules could cost tribes \$1 billion annually.

"That's devastating for the Class II industry and hurts rural tribal economies," Stevens said. "The most basic problem is that the new regulations arbitrarily slow down Class II games, making them less fun and less marketable."



**TULSA INDIAN CLUB
PRESENTS**

**2007 CHRISTMAS BENEFIT POW WOW
DECEMBER 8, 2007**

Million Dollar Elm Casino Event Center
951 W 36th Street North * Tulsa
1:00 pm to 11:00pm

**Benefiting:
Murrow Indian Children's Home**

ADMISSION: \$2.00 or a donated item from the list below:

Laundry products • Towels • Twin sheets • Toys for ages up 16
Billfolds for boys • Purses for girls • Earrings for girls
Cologne for boys, aftershave products • Bath products for boys and girls
Hand held games • Winter hats, gloves
Art supplies – canvas, water colors, brushes, colored pencils, crayons

Money!!

HEAD STAFF

- MC - Rogan Noble
- Host Drum - Redland Singers
- Head Man - Thorpe Sine
- Head Lady - TBA
- Head Gourd Dancer - Adam Proctor
- AD - Tulsa Indian Club

**CONTEST
CONTEST
CONTEST**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.tulsapowwow.org - Robert Anquoe (918) 671-2417 - e-mail: tici@tulsapowwow.org
Arts & Crafts: Sammy Haynes - sjhaynes@valonnet.com or (918) 494-0344
Fund raising: Dorcas Williams - sitsonhill@sbcglobal.net or (918) 437-5115

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE SEPTEMBER 25, EMERGENCY SESSION.

SEPTEMBER 25, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **THOMAS MCINTOSH** - EXCUSED, **ROBERT JONES** AND **LARRY BIBLE** - EXCUSED;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-263, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008 SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

SEPTEMBER 29, REGULAR SESSION

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES **DUKE HARJO**, **LENA WIND** AND **THOMAS MCINTOSH** ARE EXCUSED;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- MOTION CARRIED (22-0-0), REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** MADE A MOTION TO MOVE NCA 07-265 AND NCA 07-266 AT THE TOP OF THE AGENDA;
- APPROVED (13-9-0) NCA 07-265, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, TOM PICKERING, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED (17-5-0) NCA 07-266, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008 SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE** AND **SHIRLENE ADE**;

- APPROVED (21-1-0) TR 07-068, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT TO FURNISH CONSTRUCTION OF TEN STORM SHELTERS FOR SIX MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE;

VOTING NO WAS: **TOM PICKERING**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-087, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE ALTERNATIVE HOUSING POLICY AS APPROVED BY TR 05-030 SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;

- APPROVED (17-4-1) TR 07-089, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF LOLA FIELDS TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA; CO-SPONSOR: SYLVANNA CALDWELL;

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES** AND **RON CLEGHORN**;

ABSTAIN WAS: **TRAVIS SCOTT**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-090, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO BE DISPLAYED IN THE LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 07-091, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY FOR THE NATION'S HEALTH SYSTEM TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENTS SPONSOR: LENA WIND;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) NCA 07-175, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO AMERICAN STORM SHELTER FOR THE INSTALLATION

OF TEN STORM SHELTERS FOR SIX MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE (\$80,195.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-227, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HICKORY GROUND #1 INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING (\$10,300.00);

- FAILED ON THE FLOOR (9-13-0) NCA 07-228, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE FIRST INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF SHAWNEE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING (\$29,580.60);

VOTING NO WERE: **TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, ROBERT JONES, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, RON CLEGHORN, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **SAM ALEXANDER** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-1-0) NCA 07-233, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A CREEK YOUTH TO PURCHASE HOME SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO DUSTIN PUBLIC SCHOOL SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$3,180.00);

VOTING NO WAS: **CHERRAH QUIETT**;

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (16-6-0) NCA 07-234, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO PURCHASE A HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE VAN FOR A SEVERELY HANDICAPPED CITIZEN SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING, ANTHONY NOTARO, PETE BEAVER, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE** AND **SHIRLENE ADE**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-240, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF A TRIBAL COURTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-241, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2006 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 06-112 SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE;

- APPROVED (21-1-0) NCA 07-242, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$4,000.00);

VOTING NO WAS: **ROBERT JONES**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-243, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO UPGRADE THE TRIBAL COMPLEX'S TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON (\$653,163.00);

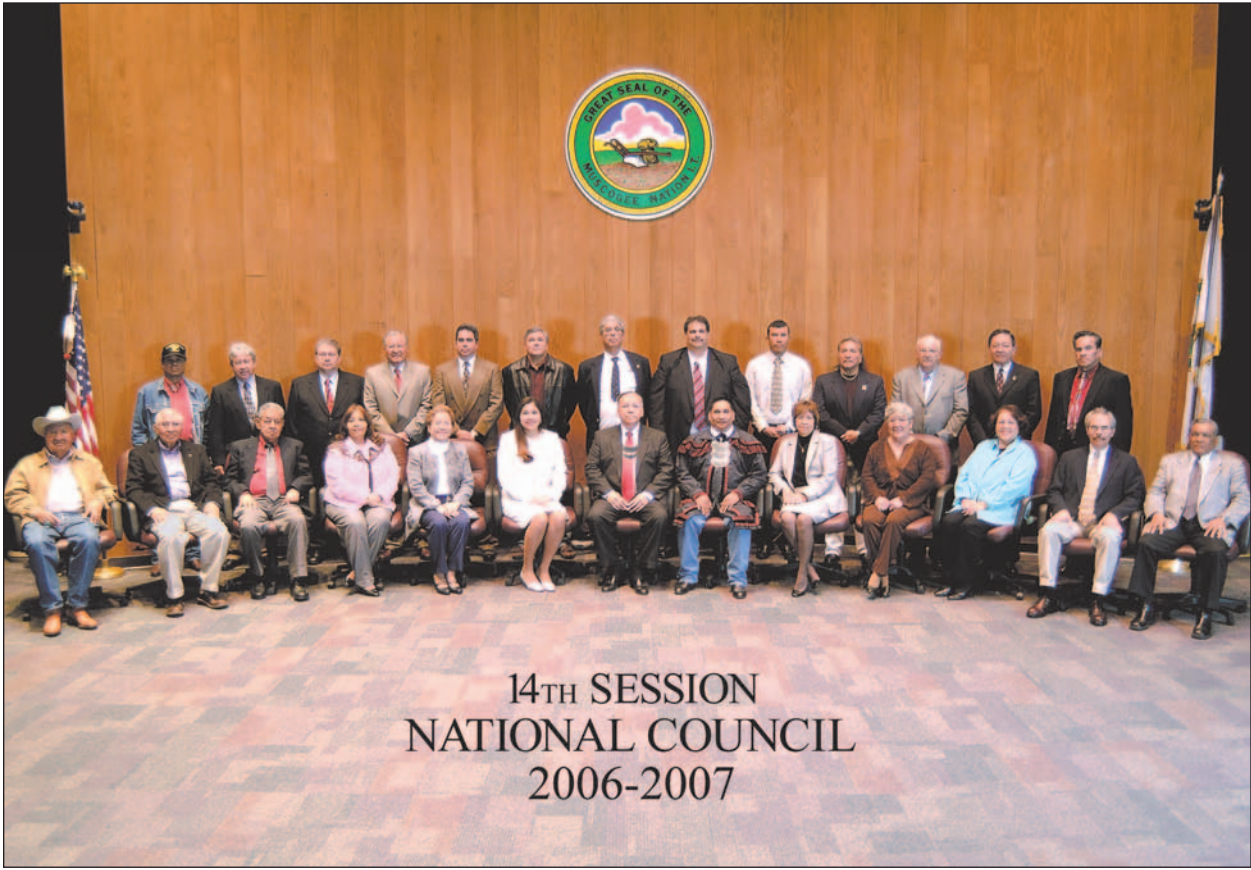
- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (21-1-0) NCA 07-244, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUILDING SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON (\$155,000.00);

VOTING NO WAS: **BO JOHNSON**;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-245, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SHELTON SCHOOL & EVALUATION CENTER TO ASSIST WITH THE EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES OF KELSIE SEWELL FOR THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO (\$3,000.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-246, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING;

REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;



- APPROVED WITH CORRECTION (21-0-0) NCA 07-248, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE KING COAL DEPOT TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER AND TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM PROJECT SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$147,402.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-249, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING MATCHING FUNDS TOWARDS A GRANT AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE KING COAL DEPOT TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER AND TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM PROJECT SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$220,000.00);

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-250, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF'S THREE YEAR PLAN TO PROGRAM TRIBAL JUDGMENT FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2008, 2009 AND 2010 SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 07-251, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 33, CHAPTER 9 TO ADD A SECTION 1-202 ENTITLED, "NOTICE; KNOWLEDGE" SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS YAHOLA** WAS EXCUSED;

- APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 07-252, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 6, § 1-205, C AND D., ENTITLED

"STATE COURT PROCEEDINGS" SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE;

REPRESENTATIVE **SYLVANNA CALDWELL** WAS EXCUSED;

- APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-254, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-055 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY PHASE 1 FARM PROJECT) SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING;

REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** WAS EXCUSED;

- APPROVED (14-5-0) NCA 07-258, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO YEAGER MISSION METHODIST CHURCH SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE (\$3,200.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **TRAVIS SCOTT, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**;

REPRESENTATIVE **SHIRLENE ADE** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 07-262, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION - JOHNSON O'MALLEY PROGRAM SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO

OCTOBER 9, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **BO JOHNSON** WAS EXCUSED AND REPRESENTATIVE **PETE BEAVER** WAS LATE. REPRESENTATIVES **ROGER BARNETT, THOMAS MCINTOSH** AND **LARRY BIBLE** WERE ABSENT.

VETO MESSAGE:

- VETO (9-10-0) NCA 07-259, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS RETURN BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: **GEORGE TIGER, ANTHONY NOTARO, EDDIE LAGRONE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

- VETO (9-10-0) NCA 07-263, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008 RETURN BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: **GEORGE TIGER, ANTHONY NOTARO, EDDIE LAGRONE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, PAULA WILLITS, RICHARD BERRYHILL** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED WITH CORRECTIONS (17-1-0) TR 07-096, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A HUD COMPLAINT MANUFACTURED HOUSING (MOBILE HOMES) OFFERED BY FEMA REQUEST FORM SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE;

VOTING NO WAS: **PAULA WILLITS**.

Foster Care & Adoption Program

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration is a non-profit social services agency, established to implement the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Children and Family Services Administration offers foster family recruitment, certification and adoption services to help children retain the unique values and customs of their Indian heritage.

BUILD THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children & Family Services
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447
(800) 521-5432 • (918) 732-7869

OUR CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION
Fostering and Adopting maintains the integrity of our past and builds the future of our Nation.
Adopt a Muscogee (Creek) Child or be a Foster Parent
www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

BUSINESS/GAMING

Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Nicholas Howk

CREEK NATION
Casino

Tulsa • 81st & Riverside
www.creeknationcasino.com

Progress Being Made

Most of what is taking place at the Tulsa Casino construction site is a continuation of proceeding tasks, with more concrete being placed including generator pads and more steel being erected. No new activities have been started, but most of the on-site utilities are in and the city of Tulsa is being contacted to run the water and gas to the site. More of the membrane roofing (left) has been laid and will continue throughout this month. The crews at the site are continuing to work long hours and weekends to keep up with the scheduled completion date of September 2008.

MNN/Nicholas Howk

MNBE Technology Services

Protecting homes throughout Creek Nation



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Pictured above are two of many surveillance cameras at the Eufaula housing addition. This is one of the high-powered systems that has helped with the significant drop in the crime rate.



Photo submitted

Along with the surveillance systems being installed at the housing additions, the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise is also finishing up their surveillance project at Union Public Schools in Tulsa.

MNBE

continued from A1

After seeing how outstanding MNBE did on the first housing addition, the bid was put out on installing similar systems at the other housing additions in the Creek Nation boundaries. As they usually do when competing for a bid, MNBE won and have been busy installing surveillance systems at the Checotah, Eufaula (McIntosh and Hilltop) and Okemah housing additions.

As stated earlier, the crime rate among the housing additions was over 90 percent, but after MNBE installed the new surveillance systems, the rate has dropped significantly.

"There was a lot of crime, and I have seen it go down, but there is still some crime activity that is going on," said Linda Lowe of the Taylor Drive Housing addition. "When the systems were first installed, I wrote a letter to all of my tenants to let them know they would be watched, that helped some."

The installation of these monitoring systems has helped with lease violation, drug activity and the landlords are more aware of which apartments is committing the suspicious activities.

As of now, four out of the five projects have been completed and the final project at the Eufaula Hilltop housing addition is almost finished.

MNBE has future plans of making it possible for the housing addition projects to have the Lighthorse Tribal Police be able to monitor the surveillance from the new main office in Okmulgee.

"Having someone view these cameras throughout the night. This would allow the officers to control to cameras would be a tremendous help," said Lowe.

Tulsa Indian Club Announce Dates, Lineup for Second Annual Native Fall Music Fest

TULSA — Tulsa and the Tulsa Indian Club are proud to announce the second annual Native Fall Music Fest in celebration of Native American Month, November 8-10, 2007. The festival will capture the spirit of the history, culture and contributions of Native Americans as it brings together a variety of talented Native American artists and musicians in an incredible three-day celebration.

The festivities kick off on Thursday, November 8 with Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa's Bedlam Ticket Blowout in commemoration of the casino's 23rd anniversary. Drawings for a pair of tickets to the OU/OSU Bedlam game are scheduled every half hour from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Guests may enter by having their Players Club card swiped at Guest Services beginning at 10 a.m. University of Oklahoma Heisman Trophy winners Steve Owens, Billy Sims and Jason White will be at the casino Thursday evening for free autograph signings.

The two-day indoor/outdoor music festival will begin at 4 p.m. on Friday, November 9 and will continue on Saturday, November 10 under tents set up outdoors in the north parking lot of the casino. Featuring the musical talents of Native American groups including Martha Redbone, Eagle and Hawk, Blackfoot, Bill Miller, Smilin Vic and Junior Markham. The lineup features over 10 national and local acts performing a mixture of music styles ranging from R&B and country to rock and rap.

Admission to the festival is free. The outdoor festivities on Saturday are open to all ages and include a new kid zone on Saturday. Visitors at the festival will enjoy traditional Native American foods including fry bread, Indian tacos, corn soup and meat pies. A variety of fry bread contests will be held throughout the day. Vendors will have booths set up featuring a variety of arts and crafts including Native American paintings, jewelry and pottery.

For the most current information on

the festival and event lineup, please visit www.creeknationcasino.com.

Native Fall Music Fest Tentative Event

Lineup

Thursday, November 16 —

11 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Bedlam Ticket Blowout (half hour drawings for a pair of OU/OSU tickets) 6 - 8 p.m. Steve Owens/Billy Sims/Jason White Autograph Session

Friday, November 17 —

Jaspa Kings (Rap), Junior Markham (Blues), Gerry "The Bear" Barrett (Comedian), Martha Redbone (R&B). Saturday, November 18; 59 South (Country), Smilin Vic (R&B), House (Blues), Merle Jam (Country), Eagle and Hawk (Native Rock/Traditional) Bill Miller (Pop/Rock/Traditional), Blackfoot (Rock).

Creek Nation Casino Tulsa is one of Oklahoma's leading Indian gaming facilities and is an economic development project of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma. The casino opened in 1984 along the banks of the Arkansas River and was the first high-stakes Indian bingo establishment in the state of Oklahoma.

Today, Creek Nation Casino Tulsa offers a unique brand of entertainment with an exciting array of gaming, featuring poker, blackjack and over 1,500 Class II and Class III machines, as well as exciting promotions and events, huge cash payouts and excellent customer service. The newly expanded and renovated casino features a full service restaurant, a prestigious High Stakes Room and non-smoking areas for all types of gaming. Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa is open 24 hours, seven days a week and offers complimentary valet parking.

An active community partner, Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa provides a positive economic impact for Tulsa and surrounding towns, with over 650 employees. Proceeds from gaming operations help to fund a variety of Muscogee (Creek) Nation service programs such as housing, education, elderly assistance and health care.

Small Businesses Getting Help

SHAWNEE — The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation is a U.S. Department of Treasury certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) designed to address the lack of access to capital and financial services in Native American communities.

LOANS: The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation provides loans to start-up and existing Native American-owned businesses for a variety of purposes and recognizes that every business is different, considers every client's needs and circumstances and tailors its assistance to meet those needs.

Our loans can be used to purchase property, equipment and inventory, restore and rehabilitate structures and provide working capital. They carry interest rates set depending on risk level, have terms typically of three to 10 years and include a loan origination fee.

Loans often by require collateral, typically including real estate, equipment, inventories, receivables or personal assets, but may also be made against cash flow. The maximum is \$200,000.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES: Business support and technical assistance services are available to help make your business more efficient, productive and profitable. Through

one-on-one consultation and workshop instruction participants learn to prepare a business plan, finance a small business, set-up a bookkeeping system, conduct market research, prepare effective advertising, manage employees and understanding business legal issues.

Contact the CPCDC today to obtain a loan application as well as business plan development and loan packaging assistance.

130 E. MacArthur,
Suite 206
Shawnee, OK 74804
Phone: 405-878-4697
Fax: 405-878-4665
kcoker@potawatomi.org

H3

GIVEAWAY

NOVEMBER 1ST – DECEMBER 19TH

Everyday from November 1st – December 19th customers can earn entries into a drawing for a new Hummer H3 held on December 19, 2007 by hitting \$100 or more on any VGT machine. Must have a Cache Card to participate and must be present to win.

HWY 75 @ EUFAULA ST. • (918) 756-8400
www.cncokmulgee.com

THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

HEALTH

From the Desk of the CEO

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

by Judy Aaron

Chief Executive Officer

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System provides more services than the health care provided at our inpatient and outpatient facilities. We have community outreach programs such as the Community Health Representatives (CHRs), the Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP) and Vocational Rehabilitation Services. These types of programs are meant to assist in other areas of an individual's life which can contribute to your wellness. This month I would like to highlight the Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program in an effort to get information out about how we may be able to assist you or someone you may know.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program is designed to assist American Indians residing within tribal boundaries, with a disability, whether physical or mental, in obtaining, retaining or preparing for employment. Recently, an informational survey regarding the American Indians who reside south of Interstate 40 was completed. The main question posed was, "What changes are needed to improve the

availability of services in the southern part of Creek Nation?" The majority of the comments responded with; information, awareness, pamphlets, newspaper, better communication about services, only a few know."



Judy Aaron

J.A. Duarte and B.D. Rice (Eds.) (1992) at the University of Arkansas Research and Training Center in Vocational Rehabilitation indicated, "If we cannot grasp or understand the essence of another person's culture, life or environment or if

we can assure that persons have an equal access to services that are available, how can we possibly change, empower or help that individual?"

With this quote in mind, the staff at Vocational Rehabilitation Services have developed a plan to address the unmet need, but are still in the process of determining how to assist clients, especially those residing south of Interstate 40.

The staff would like to hear more from the community on how we can make a difference together. You could potentially impact helping someone gain employment through your input.

You can contact the program at (918) 623-1197 or come and visit with the staff at

401 S. Woody Guthrie St.
Okemah, OK. 74859

The Vocational Rehabilitation Staff would like to express their appreciation to all who responded to the survey. Please feel free to offer your comments on how we may continue to improve our services not only for our community-based programs but also our health facilities.

DOCTOR's NOTE

Childhood Obesity is an Epidemic and Increases the Risk for Developing Diabetes

by Zach Anderson

MD, MPH Chief Medical Officer

OKMULGEE — This month is National Diabetes Awareness month, therefore, it is fitting for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MCNHS) to share the importance of Childhood Obesity's role in the development of Diabetes and ways to reduce the incidence of this devastating disease.

Obesity in children is an epidemic in the U.S. The number of children who are overweight has doubled in the last two to three decades. The increase has occurred in both children and adolescents of all ages, races and genders. The National Institutes of Health reports that one in five children are obese. The American Dietetic Association (ADA) reports that childhood obesity has become the most prevalent nutritional disease in the U.S.

Risk factors for heart disease, such as high cholesterol and high blood pressure, occur with increased frequency in overweight children and adolescents compared to those with a healthy weight. Type 2 diabetes, previously considered an adult disease, has increased dramatically in children and adolescents. Overweight and obesity are closely linked to Type 2 diabetes. Overweight adolescents have up to a 70 percent chance of becoming overweight or obese adults, according to the ADA. This risk increases to 80 percent if one or more parent is overweight or obese. The immediate consequence of overweight, as perceived by children themselves, is social discrimination. Children who are teased often can develop feelings of low self-esteem and depression.

The Causes Of Overweight

- Overweight in children and adolescents is generally caused by lack of physical activity, unhealthy eating patterns or a combination of both, with genetics and lifestyle playing important roles in determining a child's weight.
- Our society has become very sedentary. Television, computer and video games contribute to children's inactive lifestyles. 43 percent of adolescents watch more than two hours of television each day.
- Children, especially girls, become less active as they move through their adolescent years.

If Your Child Is Overweight

- If you are concerned about your child's weight, the first step is to speak to your child's pediatrician, family physician or a registered dietician. Collaborating with a health care team can help determine if your child is in fact overweight and what measures need to be taken to develop a weight reduction goal.
- Many overweight children who are still growing will not need to lose weight, but can reduce their rate of weight gain so that they can "grow into" their weight.
- Your child's diet should be safe and nutritious. It should include all of the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDAs) for vitamins, minerals and protein and contain the foods from the major Food Guide Pyramid groups. Any weight-loss diet should be

low in calories (energy) only, not in essential nutrients.

- Even with extremely overweight children, weight loss should be gradual.
- Crash diets and diet pills can compromise growth and are not recommended by many health care professionals.
- Weight lost during a diet is frequently regained unless children are motivated to change their eating habits and activity.
- Weight control must be considered a lifelong effort.
- A doctor should supervise any weight management program for children.



Zack Anderson

Prevention

- Let your child know he/she is loved and appreciated, whatever his/her weight. An overweight child probably knows better than anyone that he/she has a weight problem.
 - Overweight children need support, acceptance and encouragement from their parents.
 - Focus on your child's health and positive qualities, not your child's weight.
 - Try not to make your child feel different if he/she is overweight but focus on gradually changing your family's physical activity and eating habits.
 - Be a good role model for your child. If your child sees you enjoying healthy foods and physical activity, he/she is more likely to do the same now and for the rest of his/her life.
 - Understand that an appropriate goal for many overweight children is to maintain their current weight while growing normally in height.
- #### Physical Activity Suggestions for Children
- Be physically active. It is recommended that Americans accumulate at least 30 minutes (adults), or 60 minutes (children) of moderate physical activity most days of the week. Even greater amounts of physical activity may be necessary for the prevention of weight gain, for weight loss or for sustaining weight loss.
 - Plan family activities that provide everyone with exercise and enjoyment. Schedule after dinner family walks or Saturday afternoon trips to the pool.
 - Provide a safe environment for your children and their friends to play actively; encourage swimming, biking, skating, ball

sports and other fun activities.

- Reduce the amount of time you and your family spend in sedentary activities, such as, watching TV or playing video games. Limit TV time to less than two hours a day.
- Use physical activities that are fun as rewards. When your family reaches one of its goals, go to the batting cages, play frisbee in the park, go bowling, hiking or ice-skating.
- Involve children in household chores such as cleaning, gardening or walking the dog.
- Keep in mind that overweight children may not feel comfortable in team sports that are competitive, so choose activities that everyone can participate in regardless of skill or speed. Some of these may include biking, sledding, flying a kite or playing tag.

Healthy Eating Suggestions for Children

- Follow the Dietary Guidelines for healthy eating (www.health.gov/dietary-guidelines).
 - Guide your family's choices rather than dictate what foods should be eaten.
 - Encourage your child to eat when hungry and to eat slowly.
 - Eat meals together as a family as often as possible.
 - Carefully cut down on the amount of fat and calories in your family's diet.
 - Don't place your child on a restrictive diet.
 - Avoid the use of food as a reward.
 - Avoid withholding food as punishment.
 - Children should be encouraged to drink water and to limit intake of beverages with added sugars, such as soft drinks, fruit juice drinks and sports drinks.
 - Pack healthy school lunches and plan for healthy low-calorie snacks at home and at school.
 - Stock the refrigerator with fat-free or low-fat milk, and fresh fruits and vegetables instead of soft drinks or snacks that are high in fat, calories or added sugars and low in essential nutrients.
 - Try to serve at least five servings of fruits and vegetables each day.
 - Discourage eating meals or snacks while watching TV.
 - Eating a healthy breakfast is a good way to start the day and may be important in achieving and maintaining a healthy weight.
- Physical activity and eating healthy are habits that are not formed over a short period of time. They take time, effort and patience to build them into a daily routine. It is important to set realistic goals as a family and strive to achieve these goals. According to the ADA, children are more willing to eat healthy foods and be more active if they see their family members doing the same. Not only will your child learn by example, but also it will make healthy eating and physical activity fun for the entire family. Once again, MVTO, for allowing the MCNHS to share this information with you.

HEALTHNOTES

"Protect Our Future" is Theme for Breast Cancer Awareness Events

by Debra Isham

Health System Administrator, Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — The Pink Party has become a popular event for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and is no longer a single event, but this year included a breast cancer survivor brunch, the Pink Party and continues throughout the year when staff holds breast cancer awareness booths at health fairs. The Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC) plans and hosts these events.

The Breast Cancer Survivor Brunch was held Saturday, October 13, at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center. Twenty-nine breast cancer survivors attended, with survivors coming from Okmulgee, Henryetta and as far away as Dustin, Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill led the opening Creek hymn and prayer. The keynote speaker was Angela Leach, RN, Director of the Cherokee Nation Breast Cancer programs. The survivors shared their stories about how long they have survived breast cancer and had advice and support for others. Attendees enjoyed a nice brunch, exhibits and door prizes.

The Fifth Annual Pink Party was attended by 481 persons on Wednesday, October 17 at the Mound Building. Mike Flud, Chief of Staff, welcomed everyone on behalf of Chief A.D. Ellis, and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, led a Creek hymn and an opening prayer. Organizer and moderator Teri Garner, OIHC OB/GYN nurse practitioner, recognized the approximately 30 breast cancer survivors in attendance. Keynote speaker, Linda Burhansstipanov, DrPH, Executive Director of the Native American Cancer Research Corporation of Colorado, provided a lively and informative presentation about breast cancer in Native Americans. This is the second year that Burhansstipanov, an expert on cancer in Native Americans, has been the keynote speaker for the event. After being presented cancer facts, the audience played Jeopardy by answering with facts about breast cancer. After the informational session, door prizes were given away and attendees released hundreds of pink balloons with notes attached promoting breast cancer awareness. Educational booths and refreshments were available in a large tent on the lawn.

The OIHC was fortunate to receive a grant from the Spirit of EAGLES, an American Indian/Alaska Native Leadership Initiative on Cancer funded by the National Cancer Institute that is based at the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center in Rochester, Minnesota. The Spirit of EAGLES purpose is to increase community awareness and understanding of cancer by providing grants for community based cancer projects, such as the Pink Party. The grant partially supported the Pink Party events.

The OIHC thanks the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, Creek Nation Okmulgee Casino, Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma, Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Program, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal programs and many local businesses and individuals who donated door prizes and set up educational booths. Thanks also Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen, Mr. Amos Rabbit of Okemah, who designed the logo for the Pink Party. For information about breast health care or other women's health issues, contact OIHC Women's Clinic at 918-758-2717.

Making Your Medications Easier to Manage

by Myra Berry

RN, BSN Diabetes Educator/Coordinator Eufaula Indian Health Center

EUFULA — As our health changes during life, it is not uncommon to take many kinds of medications. If you have diabetes, this is even more likely to be the case. There are several types of different medications that treat different problems. It is very important for everyone to understand how to manage their medications.

List for managing your medications: Make a list of every medication and supplement (or any traditional remedies) that you take.

Include the strength, dosage form, how often to take it, the reason why you take the medication, the name of the health care provider who prescribed it and when you started taking it. Your health care provider may be a doctor, a nurse practitioner or a physician's assistant.

Include any medications that have been discontinued by your provider along with the reason for stopping it.

Keep this list up-to-date and always keep it with you.

The best way to make sure your medication is working right for you is: Take the medication as prescribed, don't skip doses unless directed by upon with your provider. If a change is expected before your next visit, ask your provider to write down the symptoms that indicate a need to change or stop the drug.

Check the medication label for the date of expiration. Throw away medications that have expired.

Take all medications before coming to the clinic. This helps your provider determine if you are on the correct dose.

Bring your blood sugar monitor and blood pressure results to educational and clinic visits and be prepared to discuss your results.

Your health care team wants you to be a partner in your own care in managing your diabetes and any other condition you may have. The information you bring from home along with the clinic tests will make this process easier and closer to a good fit for you.

If you have any questions, feel free to call your clinic's diabetes staff.

American Indians and HIV

by CDR Ellen Simmons

Claremore IHS, HIV/AIDS Coordinator

CLAREMORE — Historically, diseases have had an impact on American Indian tribes. Today, HIV is a disease that continues to pose a serious problem for Native communities. American Indians are ranked third in rates of HIV/AIDS diagnoses per population, after African Americans and Hispanics (Centers for Disease Control, 2007). In Oklahoma, American Indians represent six percent of the HIV cases in Oklahoma, but the population is much less than Caucasians.

HIV continues to increase because of an array of factors. Native people are more likely to live in a rural area with limited access to HIV testing, stigma and fear of going to an Indian clinic because of knowing people who work there, lack of knowledge about transmission.

"This is a disease we need to talk about to our children, grandchildren and family. We all need to know the facts about HIV. It's not easy to get and is transmitted by very specific behavior – sexual contact or sharing needles with an infected person or an infected mother to her child", says Ellen Simmons, RN from Claremore Indian Hospital and HEART Chair.

HEART (Health Education And Resource Training), a Native coalition made up of medical, social workers and prevention educators have been providing education sessions, HIV testing and information to many tribes and tribal programs for the past three years.

Although people with HIV are living longer, there are still about 40 thousand people getting infected every year in the United States.

"What has changed in this epidemic is that women who have male partners are the fastest growing group", said Simmons. "80 percent of newly diagnosed infections in women were through high risk heterosexual contact".

Knowing the facts, sharing the facts and using the facts of HIV are the most important tools we have in stopping this disease in Indian country. Native Americans have many of the indicators – high drug and alcohol rates, domestic violence, high teen pregnancy rates, high sexually transmitted infections (STD) and poverty. Many myths surround HIV and often because we don't hear as many stories, it's believed that it's not important. Knowledge is the power to protect our families and for survival.

November is National Native American Heritage Month - a time to celebrate and plan for the future growth of tribes and nations. It is a time to get a HIV test, talk to our families and children. Native tribes or community programs that would like more information on HIV/AIDS in your community or free HIV testing, please contact HEART through Ellen Simmons, RN at (918) 342-6449 or Claremore Indian Hospital.

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Phil Booker, selected to serve as a charter member of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC)

by Thompson Gouge

OKMULGEE — Mr. Phil Booker has been selected to serve as a charter member of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC). The Council incorporates representatives of state, tribal and local government, who will advise us on emergency management issues and help identify strengths,

weaknesses or deficiencies in disaster preparedness, protection, response, recovery and mitigation.

The Post — Katrina Emergency Reform Act of 2006 required the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Offices to develop a RAC. The requirements for these councils came outside of

the federal budget cycle and as such, funding constraints preclude the ability to fund travel. While there will be challenges faced in the beginning, the opportunities to improve readiness and response in our region far exceeds the challenges.

"I am honored to serve the native

tribes of Oklahoma on this advisory council," said Mr. Booker.

Booker has been employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for four years and is doing a great job for this Nation. If you look around in these tribal buildings you will see emergency exit route signs by

each exit door. He is also in charge of the insurance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation property such as tribal vehicles and buildings. Here is a tidbit to give you a better description of what the Risk Management is about.

The Risk Management Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation began in 2003 and is located in the Human Development Building. The purpose of the department is to implement the safety of all Tribal employees. A Safety Manual has been prepared and issued to all Muscogee (Creek) Nation departments. The manual consists

of a first aide policy emergency plans, and bloodborne pathogens. It also provides appropriate guidelines for maintenance operations and work permits. The main goal is to support employee driven safety and health teams. Proper training programs that ensure safety will be provided and it will keep all safety procedures updated. It will also help maintain a safe and healthy work environment and take a proactive approach to all accidents/incidents.

The purpose of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management office is to identify and evaluate the risks and protect the assets of the Tribe and its Enterprises and wellbeing of its employees. The intent is for the Tribe to reduce the "Cost of Risk" which is created by its operations. The cost effective concepts include uninsured losses, claims adjustment expenses, risk control expenses and administrative costs. The main goal is to meet all these guidelines, risks created by Tribal operations are to be kept to a minimum and claims that arise from injuries or property damage will be handled in a way to reduce their impact to the operations that are involved.

For more information on the subject of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Safety and Insurance you may contact: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447, (918) 732-7794 or fax: (918) 732-7796.

HOUSING SERVICES

With wildfire season in Oklahoma here again, being prepared can often make a difference

This fall and winter will likely not present anywhere near the wildfire dangers we faced during the drought stricken conditions we had last year here within the Creek Nation. But don't think that the danger of wildfires won't again exist during the coming seasons. After all the devastation caused by last year's wildfires, and often directly affecting our Creek Citizens, we still have the memory of the destruction wildfires can cause.

Last year the severe drought set the stage for wildfires not seen for decades and hopefully not for many decades to come, but wildfires will always be a part of the Oklahoma environment. That is why we still need to be cautious and prepared to take steps that could save a house and maybe even a life.

Implementing as many of the following tips as possible may be the difference between putting out a fire before it reaches your home or sustaining substantial fire damage.

1. Form a defensible space around your home.

Creating a 30 foot zone of fire-resistant space around your home can prevent fires from starting near or spreading to your home. Keeping the grass and weeds cut to less than 4" can prevent the rapid spread of fire and high flames.

2. Reduce the number of nearby trees.

Remove or thin overcrowded or small diameter trees. Prune low hanging branches from the ground to eliminate "ladder fuels." If you have trees close to your house, trim branches that overhang your roof.

3. Clear wood piles and building materials away from your home and outbuildings.

Keep burnable materials at least 20 feet from your home and outbuildings. Clear all brush at least 10 feet away from wood and debris piles. Although stacking wood close to the house may be convenient if you use a wood stove to heat your home it can also become a volatile source of fuel for a fire.

4. Keep your yard and roof

clean.

Clear leaves and debris from your yard. Removing leaves and other debris from your roof and gutters eliminates ignition sources. Remove overhanging and dead limbs.

5. Use alternatives to burning debris.

Instead of burning, recycle or compost your yard waste. This type of burning is often a source of grass fires and typically occurs in the vicinity of the home. Remember people start most wildfires.

6. Be prepared to respond to a wildfire.

Dress properly during a wildfire. Cotton and wool fabrics are preferred to synthetics. Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket, gloves, goggles, boots and a damp handkerchief to shield your face. Place large plastic trash cans or buckets around the outside of the house and fill them with water. Soak burlap sacks, small rugs and large rags; these can be helpful in beating out burning embers or small fires. Place an aluminum ladder against the roof of the house opposite the side of the approaching fire for easy access. If you have a combustible roof, wet it down. Inside the house, fill bathtubs, sinks and other containers with water. Water from toilet tanks and water heaters can also be used.

7. Be prepared to evacuate

If told to evacuate do so immediately. Account for all family members and pets. Call someone and let them know where you are going. Take valuable papers and mementos. If you have time close windows, vents, doors, venetian blinds or non-combustible window coverings and heavy drapes. Remove lightweight curtains. Shut off gas at the meter or turn off propane tanks, and Turn off pilot lights.

8. After the fire passes

Check the roof immediately. Extinguish any sparks or embers. Check inside the attic for hidden burning embers. Over the next several hours continue monitoring your home for signs of smoke and embers.

Chief attend Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission Committee Meeting



Pictured above are OIAC Commissioners, EX Officio Members and Advisory Committee members.

Chief A.D. Ellis attended his first meeting with the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission Committee meeting on Thursday September 20, 2007. The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission is charged with the mission of serving as the liaison between Oklahoma's tribal population and governments and the Oklahoma State government. The Commission carries out its duty with the guidance of four statutorily determined goals: the creation of state and federal legislation, the creation of an advisory committee, the develop-

ment and implementation of research projects and reports and the development of cooperative programs between tribes and state, federal, local, private entities, health organizations, educational agencies, tourism and economic development entities.

It was also so great to see another Muscogee (Creek) citizen by the name of Valerie Littlecreek, EX Officio designee for Department of Education, Director of Tribal for the Dept of Education for the State of Oklahoma.

Native American Smoke-out Challenge

OKMULGEE — Quitting smoking is not easy, but it can be done. To have the best chance of quitting successfully, you need to know what you're up against, what your options are and where to go for help.

The idea for the Great American Smoke-out came from a Massachusetts resident who asked people to give up smoking for a day in 1971 and donate the money they would have spent on tobacco to a local high school.

Today, the American Cancer Society's Great American Smoke-out successfully evolved into a national day of recognizing the dangers of smoking and promoting the resources to help people quit.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation also recognizes the great importance of this event. On November 28, 2007, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program will be challenging all employees and citizens to pledge to be smoke-free for 24 hours starting the morning of November 28, 2007.

Not to forget the NON-SMOKERS. You also can pledge to remain smoke-free. All pledges will receive a FREE t-shirt

During that day we will be at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building with information, t-shirts, give-aways, snacks and a presentation of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Adult Tobacco Survey.

You won't want to miss this presentation. The information gathered from the Adult Tobacco Survey is exclusive to the tobacco usage among the Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens. Some of the information you will receive during the presentation is:

Commercial tobacco use among Muscogee (Creek) Nation men and women

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens attitudes about smoking in public places including casinos

Knowledge about health risks

Traditional tobacco use

Please join us at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building on November 28, 2007 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. MVTO!

Contact Person: Christi Schultz, Tobacco Prevention Program 918-756-6231

Head start holds 2007 Health, Fire and Safety Fair

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Starts 2007 Health,

Fire & Safety Fair

was big success this school year. There were over 300 children that come and enjoyed all the healthy give-a-way and the literature to take home to share with their families.

There were approximately 29 booths

and 10 sponsors to make the Fair a success.

I would to that this opportunity to THANK everyone that came out and made this Fair

a success. The Children and the community really had a great day. I look forward in seeing you all again next year. Again thanks for all you do and either attending or participating in the Health, Fire

and Safety Fair.



Upcoming Events for November and December

Social Services taking applications next month

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department will begin applications next month for past participants of the Nation's Heating Assistance Programs (LIHEAP/Tribal Energy).

Past participants will be receiving notices in November to schedule appointments for December dates. Participants residing outside the service area will not be required to make appointments, but will be receiving notices with application instructions as they have in previous years.

All others interested in the Programs may apply beginning January 14, 2008 on a walk-in basis. For more information on either Energy Program, please contact Social Services at 918-759-2334.

Benefit Bingo and Food Sale

HANNA — There will be a Benefit Bingo and Food sale for Wilbur Chebon Gouge on Saturday, December 8, at 2pm at the Hanna Indian Community Center east of Hanna, Okla. Donations will be appreciated.

Christmas Bazaar

TULSA — The Tulsa Indian Com-

munity will be having a Christmas Bazaar on December 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The center is located at 8611 South Union Ave. For more information Contact the Center at 918-298-2464. Venders \$20 or Gift at same value. Reserve early, limited tables available.

Morris Indian Community will hold elections

MORRIS — The Morris Indian Community will be holding elections of Board Members on Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Trinity Baptist Church in the Activity Building. For more information contact Daniel at 918-733-9382.



Last year's wildfire season was one of the worst most of us can remember but don't discount the fact that each autumn in Oklahoma brings the risk of wildfires and grass fires.

Tulsa State Fair



Pictured are Cynthia Freeman and Della Cherry volunteering at the Creek Nation Information Booth at the Tulsa State Fair.

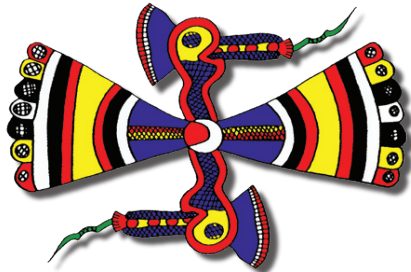
by Thompson Gouge

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has joined with Creek Nation Tulsa Casino at the Tulsa State Fair that began on Thursday September 27, 2007. This was our first year to participate in promoting our tribe at the Tulsa State Fair.

Our booth has been a great suc-

cess because it has given us the opportunity to reach more of our Creek Citizens and answer their questions concerning our services," said Jan Hart, Training/Recruiting Coordinator for the Personnel Office.

This is just the beginning of what will be happening with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

I've been on the road for over a week, from the Southwest to the North, to the Pacific and now to Tulsa. Flying takes your body a little faster than your spirit. I feel as if I am still standing on the edge of a mountain near Santa Rosa, California, looking out over the valley to the city, toward the ocean, surrounded by a complex smell of medicine plants, bobcat territorial markings and the full moon making everything silver and strange.

The travel began a week and a half ago when I flew up to Anchorage with my band, the Joy Harjo and the Arrow Dynamics Band (mvto to Alfred Berryhill for the band name) for a show at the Alaska Native Heritage Center. We were a featured band, alongside several native dance groups: a Tlinget group, a Yupik group from Gambell, St. Lawrence Island who now live in Anchorage, a Hawaiian band made up of Hawaiians who have relocated from the islands to Alaska, and a local salsa group. The audience was warm and appreciative and the day was perfectly beautiful.

Candycy Childers, an Athabascan artist who had been a student of mine at the Institute of American Indian Arts in the late 70's, walked us through a tour of the various tribal villages on the grounds of the center. We climbed into a warm cedar plank house characteristic of some of the southeastern Alaskan tribes. We sat on the benches built into the walls. It was so comfortable we stayed for quite some time visiting and telling stories. Jerome Oates, a healer who is originally from the South and is in his 80's, and a friend of Candycy's and mine, told of how when growing up his grandfather told stories of slavery, and how his father had run away several times. His people were from Kenya. One of the houses was a copy of the kind of house Candycy had grown up in over in Holy Cross. It was constructed with logs, with moss as chinking. When she wanted to look outside she pushed the moss chinking over to get a view.

Later Candycy drove us out to the place where water comes out of the rocks. It's where the local native community goes to for fresh water, for living water. The water emerges from stone alongside a busy highway. The water hasn't been shot through with fluoride or exhausted by contaminants. The taste is dramatically different from most tap waters. These days we mostly seem to drink water from plastic bottles. The plastic gives the water a plastic taste. I want to my grandchildren to taste this living water, so they will know what real water tastes like, what it feels like. The molecules are energetic, bright, whirling with clear light. I used to go with my grandfather to take the huge milk cans in the back of his truck to get water from a spring.

CONTINUED - DEC. ISSUE

Council Oak, a look at the past

by Josh Slane
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Last month was the Council Oak Ceremony where many tribal members gathered to honor the Ceremonial Leaders, but there has been confusion to as why the Council Oak site is chosen to hold the ceremony.

The Council Oak site has a long standing history with the Muscogee Tribe. The tree marks the site initially chosen by the Lovapokv (luh-tchuh-BOW-guh) tribal town, which was a member of the Mvskoke Confederation, for settlement when they arrived in Indian territory. The Lovapokv town is the daughter town of Tvlse (Old Tulsa) and is the sister town of Tvlse Acina Hvtce (Tulsa Cedar River, also called New Tulsa). It is a descendant of Kusa and is related to Oce Vbofa (Hickory Ground), Vkvfske (Okfuskee), and Tvlmocvse (Tulmochussee). It is a white stick town, that is to say it is a peace town.

The common translation of Lovapokv is "Turtle meeting place" but not everyone agrees with that translation. Another common translation is "Turtle fades away." This second translation comes from an ancient story where turtle offends the Creator and has his voice stripped

away because of it, thus fading away in importance.

The Lovapokv tribe was forced to come to Indian Territory as hostiles after siding with the red sticks in the war of 1836. They were only one of many tribes who had to endure the Trail of Tears, but endure it they did and when they arrived many other tribes had already settled here in Indian Country. Thus, it was that the Lovapokv settled on the hilltop just northwest of the Council Oak tree. This area would eventually attract other peoples as well, and thus create the city of Tulsa.

However, the Lovapokv tribe were not the only ones to use the Council Oak site. In December of 1861, Opoet-hleyahola called a tribal meeting at the Council Oak site where he explained why the tribes should head north to the promised protection in Kansas. Many



MNN/Josh Slane
During the Trail of Tears each tribal town ensured that their fire would not go out through various means. Pictured above is a fire lit in remembrance of those sacred fires. This fire remained burning throughout the entire Council Oak Ceremony.

tribal towns joined him and they fled north to escape the confederate army. But not everything went well for the Lovapokv. As the City of Tulsa grew, residents of the city began disrupting the Lovapokv ceremonies and so they left the Council Oak site, but were unable to find another location that would serve their purposes as well as the Council Oak site had, so it was that they took the embers of their fire and put them in with the Tvlse Acina Hvtce's fire.

So it was that Lovapokv became an inactive ground, as so many have before it, but even so, the site marked by the Council Oak remained important to the tribe, it was the birthplace of Tulsa, the largest city in

SEE COUNCIL OAK - B2

Diversity in the workplace

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

TULSA — Workplace diversity is a people issue, focused on the differences and similarities that people bring to an organization. It is usually defined broadly to include dimensions beyond those specified legally in equal opportunity and affirmative action non-discrimination statutes. Diversity is often interpreted to include dimensions which influence the identities and perspectives that people bring, such as profession, education, parental status and geographic location.

As a concept, diversity is considered to be inclusive of everyone. In many ways, diversity initiatives complement non-discrimination compliance programs by creating the workplace environment and organizational culture for making differences work. Diversity is about learning from others who are not the same, about dignity and respect for all and about creating workplace environments and practices that encourage learning from others and capture the advantage of diverse perspectives.

For organizational change to occur, the behavior of both businesses and individuals must adapt. However, change is often difficult for organizations and the people who work in them, and resistance is an expected part of any change process. In order to increase diversity and create inclusive work environments that benefit all employees, managers must understand, anticipate and address employee resistance at every stage of the process.

Recently Blue Cross and Blue shield of Tulsa held a "Diversity in the Workplace" session which was designed to educate people on the importance of diversity in the workplace.

This specific event strictly pertained



MNN/Nicholas Howk
Pictured above are employee, customers and constituents of Blue Cross and Blue Shield. These people are seen looking at Native American artifacts and other items associated with Native American culture. Along with looking at the items, those in attendance were given an opportunity to sample some Native American food.

to Native Americans and how working with people of different cultures can be beneficial.

For the Oklahoma division of Blue Cross and Blue Shield, sessions on diversity in the workplace have been going on for about two years. Previous to the diversity program in Oklahoma, Blue Cross and Blue Shield took a look at programs that were already in existence in Texas, New Mexico and Illinois to help develop a program for our state. These other states had pre-existing programs that have been around since the mid 90's.

The other three states have had activities like this one for years and with Oklahoma becoming part of this organization they now are offered the opportunity to have events like this.

"This event is not just about culture dimensions, any diversity demission can have an event like," said Mike Edmondson of Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

These types of sessions are formed to help educate employees and customers on the culture of people they work with. This type of event brings about more comfort and interaction with people from other backgrounds.

Blue Cross and Blue shield took a look at the cultural population of their employee and they saw they had a large population of Native Americans and also

a large population of African Americans. The two events that have taken place this year have focused on these two cultures and helped to educate people about them.

"Diversity to us is similarities and differences among employees customers and other key constituents," said Edmondson

In order for Blue Cross and Blue Shield to be successful they have to be knowledgeable of all cultures and what their needs and wants are. This session was a great way to help meet some of the needs of Native Americans that the company may not have been aware of before.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Celebrating Council Oak



RELIGION B3

Indian Baptist Church dedicates Fellowship Hall.



LIFESYLTLES B4

Muscogee Creek Marine serving in Iraq



SPOTLIGHT B5

Native Veteran completes the circle



SPORTS B7

Creek athlete leading Dewar back to the top



SPORTS B8

Native Athletes chosen to play in Sooner Classic



HISTORY/CULTURE

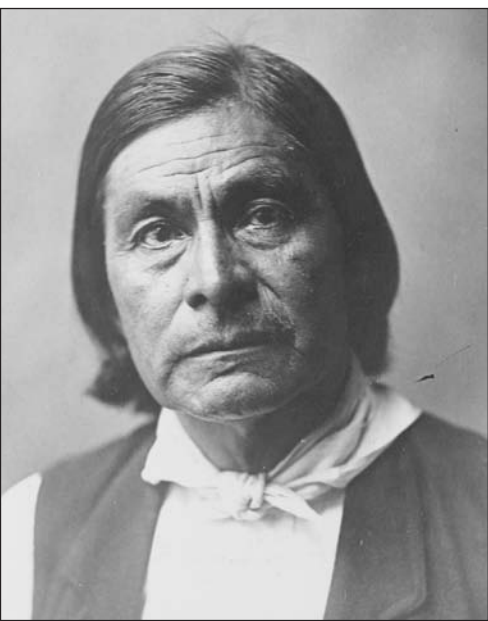
The Plea of Crazy Snake (Chitto Harjo)

Oklahoma Historical Society
PART II

“Now, coming down to 1832 and referring to the agreements between the Creek people and the Government of the United States; What has occurred since 1832 until today? It seems that some people forget what has occurred. After all, we are all one blood; we have the one God and we live in the same land. I had always lived back yonder in what is now the State of Alabama. We had our homes back there; my people had their homes back there. We had our troubles back there and we had no one to defend us. At that time when I had these troubles, it was to take my country away from me. I had no other troubles. The troubles back there and we had no other troubles. The troubles were always about taking my country from me. It may have been that my country had to be taken away from me, but it was not justice. I have always been asking for justice. First, it was this and then it was something else that was taken away from me and my people, so we couldn't stay there any more. It was not because a man had to stand on the outside of what was right that brought the troubles.

What was to be done was all set out yonder in the light and all men knew what the law and the agreement was. It was a treaty - a solemn treaty- but what difference did that make? I want to say this to you today, because I don't want

these ancient agreements between the Indian and the white man violated and I went as far as Washington and had them sustained and made treaties about it. We made terms of peace, for it had been war, but we made new terms of peace and made new treaties. Then it was the overtures of the Government to my people to leave their land, the home of their fathers, the land that they loved. He said, “it will be better for you to do as I want, for these old treaties cannot be kept any longer.” He said, “you look away off to the West, away over backward and there you will see a great river called the Mississippi River and away over beyond that is another river called the Arkansas River.” And he said, You go way out there and you will find a land that is fair to look upon and is fertile, and you go there with your people and I will give that country to you and your people forever.” He said, “Go way out there beyond these two rivers; away out



the direction of the setting sun and select your land- what you want of it- and I will locate you and your people there and I will give you that land forever and I will protect you and your children in it forever.” That was the agreement and the treaty and I and my people came out here and settled on this land and I carried out these agreements and treaties in all points and violated none. I came over and located here.

“What took place in 1861? I had made my home here with my people and I was living well out here with my people. We were all prospering. We had a great deal of property here, all over this country. We had come here and taken possession of it under our treaty. We had laws that were living laws and I was living here under the laws.

You are my fathers and I tell you in 1861, I was living here in peace and plenty with my people and we were happy; and

then my white fathers rose in arms against each other to fight each other. They did fight each other. At that day Abraham Lincoln was President of the United States and our Great Father. He was in Washington and I was away off down here. My white brothers divided into factions and went to war. When the white people raised in arms and tried to destroy one another, it was not for the purpose of destroying treaties with the Indians. They did not think of that and the Indian was not the cause of that great war at all. The cause of that war was because there was a people that were black in skin and color who had always been in slavery. In my old home in Alabama and all through the south part of the Nation and out in this country, these black people were held in slavery and up in the north there were no slaves.

The people of that part of the United State determined to set the black man free and the people in the south determined to set the black man free and the people in the South determined that they should not and they went to war about it. In that war the Indians had not any part. It was not their war at all. The purpose of the war was to set these black people at liberty and I had nothing to do with it. He told me to come out here and have my laws back, and I came out here with my people and had my own laws and was living under them. On account of some of your own sons – the ancient brothers of mine – they

came over here and caused my to enroll along with my people on your side. I left home and my country and everything I had on the world and went rolling on toward the Federal Army. I left my law and government; I left my people and my country and my home; I left everything and went with the Federal Army for my father in Washington.

I left them in order to stand by my treaties. I left everything and I arrived in Kansas – I mean it was Leavenworth where I arrived. It was a town away up in Kansas on the Missouri River. I arrived at Fort Leavenworth to do what I could for my father's country and stand by my treaties there at Fort Leavenworth was the orator of the Federal Army and I went and fell before the orator of the Federal Army. It was terrible hard times with me then. In that day I was under the sons of my father in Washington. I was with the Federal soldiers.

“I am speaking now the orator in the Federal Army. I went and fell before him and I and my people joined the Federal army because we wanted to keep out treaties with the father in Washington. Things should not have been that way but that is the way they were. The father at Washington was not able to keep his treaty with me and I had to leave my country, as I have stated, and go into the Federal Army.”

CONTINUED IN DEC. ISSUE

Lokcvpe Nvkaftetv Afvcketv
“Celebrating Council Oak”

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

TVLSE – On October 20, a warm fall afternoon at the meeting site of our ancestors and the birthplace of Tvlse (Tulsa), Afvcketv Enhomahtv (Master of Ceremony) Felix Brown of Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground welcomed everyone to the home of the great Council Oak tree. Totkv Kulecetv (lighting the fire) was started by Weogufkee Ceremonial Ground Mekko Billy Hill followed by J.D. Harley a Enmakv and ground member who tended the fire during the ceremony. We have at our ceremonial grounds keep the fire going to this day and time. Tvlennv Svpaklecetv (Presentation of Colors) by Este Mvskokvlke Suletawvlke Aheicv (Muscogee (Creek) Nation Honor Guard). Yicakcvt Estonkot Heremahe (welcome) by Thompson Gouge, Jr. on behalf of the Office of the Principal Chief welcomed the group for this momentous occasion. Fourteen Ceremonial Ground Mekkos or representatives were present: Arbek - Raymond Meeley, Duck Creek - Simon Harry, Green Leaf – Bill Proctor, Hickory Ground representative - Roman Powell, Hillabee – acting Mekko Joe Jackson, Kellyville representative – Newman Littlebear, New Tulsa – Jeff Fixico, Nuyaka representative – Eunice Hill, Okfuskee- Barney Harjochee, Peach Ground - Roger Butler, Sand Creek – Gary Bucktrot, Tallahassee - Wykokaye – David Proctor, Weogufkee - Billy Hill. Bobby Yargee of Alabama Ceremonial Ground was fulfilling his cultural responsibility, they were having their last dance. Missing from this year's event was Fish Pond - Thomas Mack, and Tallahassee Cromwell - Thomas Yahola.

Samantha Coon Miss Muscogee Nation 2007-2008 introduced The remainder of the tribal Royalty in attendance: Jr. Miss Taylor Tiger, Division II. - Taiah Sanders, Division I Angel Hartley and Senior Ms. Muscogee Etta Dickerson. Council Representatives present from Tulsa District - Paula Willits, Cherrah Quiett and Samuel Alexander. First Lady of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mrs. Gail Ellis and Speaker George Tiger, Locv Poka descendants Monetta Trepp, Robert Trepp and Barbara Gillespie

Punvka Cvpkeckv (traditional speech) was given by Newman Littlebear Polecat (Kellyville) Ceremonial Ground he spoke about Yuchi and Creek traditions and of an elder riding with them to attend Nuyaka Ceremonial ground in the 1940's. What we do at our grounds is our ceremonial ways of the old people and what they did in their lifetime was practiced till their death.

Eunice Hill gave Nvkaftetv Lokcvpe Ohvytekctv, Locv Pokv Ohvytekctv, and Este Mvskokvlke Enfoletv Ohvytekctv and Awahetv (History of Council Oak, History of Locv Pokv, History of Creek



Musogee (Creek) Nation flag flying in “full force and effectively” before the Oklahoma and United States flags

Traditions and dismissal). Hill stated “today is a good day to celebrate 175 years”, he talked about the Trail of Tears, he thought that name was given right. He wondered what they were thinking that long ago, that long of a way, they cried, they lost tears, on that trail when they came here. Right now we still have to lose tears they will never end, when you lose a loved you lose your tears you will feel a bad heartache so it will never end, that's my belief. It's good to see that many show up. Last year it got kind of cold and windy. But on their journey “Ohfvnk” (Creator) was with them on the Trail of Tears. You have to ask “Ohfvnk” for help it's our Muscogee tradition, our sacred fire, on the trail of tears it was cold, they traveled thousands of miles. With them they brought “totkv”(fire), they brought their herbs and “helesw” (medicine), water and food to this side of the Arkansas river. That's why we still have ceremonial grounds today. There is a worry about us losing our language, but we're doing it ourselves. When I was about 11 years old, my family use to visit with elders, there were many who knew our traditions it was all in the asking. There were several who knew about traditions there was people like the late Roley Haynes. People use to live out of town, in the country to talk to them was to get information about our history, our creek language was used, it used to be so strong, now, there's not many talking it. We have to get our language strong again, we have to get down and learn the language.

Hill thanked Newman Littlebear who talked about the Yuchi grounds Polecat (Kellyville), Duck Creek and Iron Post (Sand Creek) three of Muscogee

(Creek) Nation's recognized ceremonial grounds. Hill asked the crowd “don't forget each other, before you leave shake hands with each other. Keep in touch, for we don't know if we will be back next year. So today lets greet each other and shake hands”. I encourage you young ones get someone to teach you the language, ask someone. At home ask your grandmas or grandpas for a few words not long words something small to start out with. There's one you'd really like to learn that's when it's time to “hompvks ci” (come eat).

Opunayeckv ArakkuECKvsPOKE (Proclamation of Recognition) by Cherrah Quiet on behalf of the City of Tvlse's Mayor's office they were not able to attend and Quiett stated “we don't have the proclamation in hand. It is to show us that they have preserved this tree We may not have a proclamation from the city, but us being here today is our own proclamation and recognition.”

Quiett spoke about how “the committee was formed for Council Oak, how we come up with the ideas, what we can do to make it better each year, to make more people want to come. It's about recognizing our traditional people, about how we incorporate our language onto our program and t-shirts. We asked members of the grounds for their input and to participate in the program. We have changed the format of the program so we would have people who practice our “original” traditional ways as speakers. For a short time over the years it got away from that. We want to hold on to our culture. We now have the technology to capture our history with pictures and video, today is our history”.

What we are doing is about our traditional people, that's all the matters. In another 175 years our grandchildren and great-grandchildren will say that was my grandma or grandpa. A lot of the grounds welcome us, but I didn't grow up that way. But I know in my heart we're doing the right thing. Quiett thanked the Ceremonial Ground Mekkos and Representatives for coming. The crowd gave a standing ovation for these humble, distinguished men of our tribe for they are the true leaders of our tribe, they brought our tradition into this century, they are in these positions not for a term but for life.

Joe Jackson and Ted Isham of Hillabee Ceremonial Ground spoke of the late Daniel Harjo, their Mekko. Jackson's speech about Harjo was spoken in Creek he talked of what the ceremonial ground life meant to Harjo, the life of the fire, how he encouraged everyone to participate at the ground. Ted Isham spoke of the kind man Harjo was which caused him to think about some of the things he practiced, to keep ourselves as a ceremonial ground, he made it a point to say that traditions were handed down to him, from his grandparents and the people that met at this tree. After his passing, they had to re-evaluate the momentum, the rituals and set forth green corn.

A heavy burden was upon us we met in council, similar to this. We came up with a solution to carry on and carry forth. Isham stated “we've been here forever, a thousand years at least and maybe a thousand more as long as we carry on our ways”. We made a commitment for the long run as we pay tribute to our Mekko. Isham thanked the committee for the time

to remember our Mekko”. After Harjo's passing in July several members from other grounds spoke about what a dedicated, kind and considerate man he was.

The Council Oak committee sat a chair aside with a ribbon memorializing him, it was only natural for us to set aside a few minutes for such a great man whom lived his life carrying on our traditions, Mekko Daniel Harjo.

Samantha Coon gave Emakhottvketv (the closing remarks), “Thank you to everyone for listening to a little bit of history. I cannot speak our language, but growing up around my grandparents I knew what he was saying where we came from and where we are heading”. It's 2007 and this past year we got to visit our homelands. Here it is 175-years later and we are sitting in this shade of the historical tree. It's true, that you lose a little bit wisdom when one of our elders dies”. Coon thanked everyone for coming, Special thanks all the Mekkos, members of Muscogee Nation. Mvto!!

Awahetv by Hill closed the program out. This year's celebration means a lot more to Mvskoke Etlvkv. While the state is celebrating their 100-year “birthday”. We as Mvskoke Etlvkv have 175 more reasons to celebrate, we have survived treaties, assimilation and “their statehood” we have endured a lot of changes, we have survived with our traditions and culture. This year's logo was changed. The colors used are of the same colors of Oklahoma's Centennial theme, but oak leaves on top of a camp fire instead of stars are used to signify that our fires existed before and after “their” statehood. The oak leaves represent our sacred Council Oak Tree a sacred site to many and should be respected and not used out of the context. It represents our new beginnings in our new home before statehood.

Out of 44 grounds that were removed from our homelands we still have 16 strong remaining Ceremonial Grounds. We should hold our head high and be proud that our ancestors practiced our traditions, more importantly they taught each generation to carry it on. It gives one great pride in knowing that this group of men from these 16 grounds will ensure that the next generation to come will know what our original tradition and lifestyle consisted of. Special Thanks should be given to these individuals.

Ohrolope Cuke Hvmken Pale Kulvpaken cahkepohkaken. Ah-hoskvrt: Temfvctetv. Eticetv. Etlv-lwv Hakat. Hesahoketv: Enfoletv. Emenyekcetv.

RELIGION

Arbeka Indian Baptist dedicates new fellowship hall



MNN/Starla Bush

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

BRYANT — On September 15, Arbeka Church held a dedication of their new fellowship hall. "This new fellowship hall will help a lot of people in times

of need," said Paster Marvin Lowe. "The church has been needing a fellowship hall for a while and is very grateful."

Pictured above are members and visitors of Arbeka Indian Baptist

Church. Pictured to the right, is the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church's new fellowship hall.

The church celebrated its 103 years anniversary this year.

"Arbeka Indian Baptist church



MNN/Starla Bush

needed the fellowship hall because they are a traditional church and have six camp houses", says Mona Lowe, "Arbeka Indian Baptist Church member, when gatherings were held everyone was crowded in

the houses."

The church raised some of the money for the new fellowship hall and the rest was funded by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council.

Native American plan to focus on new church starts

By Linda Green
United Methodist News Service Writer

Promoting evangelism, assisting in new church starts and revitalizing existing congregations are the plans of the task force charged with encouraging Native American participation in the life of The United Methodist Church.

The evangelistic focus for the Native American Comprehensive Plan parallels the denomination's aggressive vision of "Path One," the newly organized strategy team on new congregational development under the United Methodist Board of Discipleship.

Meeting Sept. 27 in Reno, Nev., the task force visualized ways over the next four years to be part of the renewed emphasis on church growth in The United Methodist Church. The plan also seeks new ways to address poverty in Native America and provide native resources for the church and world.

In the United States, there are more than 100 United Methodist Native American churches, ministries and organizations, and an estimated 18,000 Native Americans among the denomination's 8 million U.S. members. The plan seeks to work with at least two annual (regional) conferences a year to begin new Native American churches or faith communities. The plan also seeks to help revitalize urban, rural and reservation

churches.

"Our ultimate goal is to increase the number of faith communities and congregations across the United States and make new Native American disciples of Jesus Christ," according to the Rev. Anita Phillips, the plan's executive director.

The Native American Comprehensive Plan and its 19-member task force were created under a mandate by the 1992 General Conference, the denomination's top legislative body, to help United Methodists view Native Americans as partners in ministry rather than as a mission of the church. It seeks to make disciples for Jesus Christ within the Native American community while recognizing the unique cultures and languages of native people.

Specifically, the plan's mandate is to develop and strengthen native congregations, ministries and fellowships; train and develop native leaders; and encourage their contributions to the life of the church. Key to each area are contributions that Native American cultures and spiritual expression bring to the mission of the whole church.

The focus on new church starts and revitalization of Native American congregations is the genesis behind the plan's request

to the 2008 General Conference to move from the umbrella of the church's Board of Global Ministries to its Board of Discipleship, according to the Rev. David Wilson, chairman of the plan.

"We are shifting from being a mission to reminding the church of what we contribute to its life and our wanting to be a resource for the denomination. We are more than a mission. We are viable and have contributions to make to the church," Wilson said.

The plan wants to hear particularly from native people who have separated themselves from the Christian church but participate in traditional religions. "We want them to come speak to us about what might it take for you to consider taking part in some of our activities," said Phillips. "We are hoping to learn how to set the Gospel in the context of Native America in the 21st century."

The regional meetings will set the tone for a proposed Native American School of Evangelism to be held within the next four years. Phillips said the school and other proposed endeavors are the plan's way of helping the church become more aware about native identity and native Christian identity.

Indian Falls Creek Updates and Miscellaneous

by Victor Cope
Indian Falls Creek Director

DAVIS — The dates for Indian Falls Creek 2008 have been set. The dates are July 28 - August 1. Begin making preparation to attend Indian Falls Creek 2008. Pray for next year's camp during your Wednesday night Prayer Services. Possible themes: "Prayer" or "Return to Holiness." Ask God to give your IFC Board Directors wisdom and His direction.

There are items that may be ordered from Indian Falls Creek 2007.

Shirts - youth and children sizes, \$8, adult small - extra large, \$10 and adult 2 XL and larger, \$14. You must add \$3 per shirt for postage and handling.

Pictures - 8 x 10, \$8 and you must add \$4 per order for postage and handling.

Posters - 12 x 18, \$25 and you must add \$4 per order for postage and handling.

Videos (CD of messages, 3 CD's) - \$25 and you must add \$3 per order for postage and handling.

E-mail all orders to: ndnrev@aol.com. Include your name, address, phone number, items purchased with sizes (where applicable) plus postage. Send checks payable to "Indian Falls Creek" to: James "Slim" Crabtree, P.O. Box 533, Seminole, OK 74818.

If you have any questions or need information about Indian Falls Creek Board, e-mail Victor Cope at ndnrev@aol.com and it will be sent to the Board member who can best serve you.

Indian Falls Creek Board Meeting will be November 17 beginning at 10 a.m. at the Indian Nations Baptist Church in Seminole.

There has been a rumor spreading that the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma was going to take Indian Falls Creek week out of the summer schedule. I have spoken to Dr. Anthony Jordan the Executive Director - Treasurer of the BGCO. He stated that the rumor was completely false.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Jaren Daniel

YANKTON, S.D. — On Sepember 15, at 7:40 p.m. Jaren Daniel was born at the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, S.D. His parents are Danny and Donna Hergert of Plainview, Neb. He weighed 4 pounds 15 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches in length. Maternal grandparents are Julian and Mary Ybarra of Manhat-tan, Kan. Paternal grandparents are Loren and Betty Hergert of Verdigre, Neb. Maternal great - grandparents are Tom Burnett of Verdigre, Neb. and the late John and Nancy Frank of Okemah. He is of the Tiger Clan.



BIRTHDAYS

Nehemiah Richard Simpson

HOLDENVILLE — Nehemiah Richard Simpson turned one year old on October 13th. He celebrated with family and friends and his cake was ninja turtles. He is the son of Isaac and Shawnavyn Simpson. He has one sister Gabriella. His maternal grandparents are Annie and Charles Joe of Win-dow Rock, AZ. His paternal grandparents are Lucinda Simpson and the late Richard Simpson of Holdenville. His paternal grandma is Marcella Owen of Oklahoma City. He is Muscogee Creek and Navajo descent.



Koriana Ta’Kai Pettigrew

TULSA — Koriana Ta’Kai Pettigrew celebrated her 1st birthday on September 13 with a Dora the Explorer theme. Her cake was a personal picture of herself at the park. The celebration took place at Mohawk Park with a Dora the Ex-plorer Jupiter jump. In attendance was a host of family and friends. She is the daughter of Becky Tulsa and Korey Pettigrew of Tulsa. She is the granddaughter of Joe and Frieda Tulsa of Tulsa. She is the granddaughter of Karen Pettigrew of Tulsa. She is the great - granddaughter of Nora Factor of Henryetta and Edmond and Hattie Birdcreek of Henryetta. She is of the Bird Clan and belongs to Hickory Ground Ceremo-nial Ground.



Fushvkte Starr Van Woudenberg

MUSKOGEE — Fushvkte Starr Van Woudenberg celebrated his 15th birthday on October 27 with a host of family and friends. He is Creek, Choctaw and Chickasaw. He is of the Wind Clan. His parents are Tenna Van Woudenberg and Glen Carney. His maternal grandparents are the late Elmer and Ester Van Woudenberg. He resides at the Murrow Indian Home in Muskogee. He is a freshman at Muskogee High School and plays football, basketball and soccer.



Sundala Bible - Pinion

PRESTON — Sundala Bible - Pinion celebrated his 11th birth-day on October 17, the party was held at Incredible Pizza in Tulsa, joined by his family and friends. A second party was held at Preston school with cake and ice cream with classmates. He is the son of the late Ron Pinion of Lewisville, Texas, Ruth Bible of Okemah and Barney Ingram of Okmulgee. He is the grandson of Billie Sulphur-Scott and the late John Ellis “Sundala” Scott and Jean “Moma Jean” and R.C. “Daddy Art” Pinion of Lewisville, Texas. Great grandparents were the late Fannie and Alec Sulphur and Susie (Looney) and Ellis Scott. Sundala has one sister, Mallory, of Okmulgee.



Hanna Elizabeth Gouge

HENRYETTA — Hanna Elizabeth Gouge celebrated her 11th birthday on October 7 with a swimming party with friends at the Henryetta Dome & Inn. She is the daughter of Thompson (Geebon) Gouge Jr. and Jenna Gouge. Her maternal grandparents are Johnny Boyce of Tulsa and Karen Robertson of Beggs. Her great grandparents are the late Sylvia and Carl Lee of Beggs. Her paternal grandparents are the late Thompson and Lutie Sue Gouge of Anadarko.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Muscogee Creek Marine Serving in Iraq

IRAQ — Private First Class Noconi Luke Brandon is following in the footsteps of his great-grandfather, great-uncle and father by becoming a part of the Armed Forces. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp. in January, 2007 and went to boot camp at MCRD, San Diego, CA. After boot camp, he went to Motor Transportation Schooling at Fort Leonard Wood, MO; Camp Lejeune, NC; Camp Pendleton, CA for combat-training and is now deployed with the II Marine Divi-sion at Al Quaim, Iraq located on the Syrian border. He attended schools in Puyallup, WA for many years while liv-ing with his father and grandparents. When grandparents Jeri and Noel Brandon moved back to Oklahoma, Noconi moved also and lived with them while attending Preston schools.



Noconi’s great-grandfather M/Sgt Wayne McHenry, Army Aircorp in WWII was a Japanese prisoner of war captured on Corrigador with General “Skinny” Wainwright and ultimately ended up on the mainland of Japan. He went through the Baatan Death March and spent three-and-a-half years in the POW camp. He and other prisoners heard the bomb when it was dropped on Nagasaki. Sgt. McHenry re-tired from the Air Force after 34 years of service and lived his later years in Midwest City. PFC Brandon’s great-uncle, Sgt. Gary McHenry, went through two tours of duty in Viet Nam with the 82nd and 101st Airborne as a crypto radio operator. He earned the Bronze Star with V for Valor and a Purple Heart during his tour. David Brandon, Noconi’s father, was a U.S. Marine and served at 29 Palms, CA; Camp Pendle-ton, CA and Okinawa. He became an exceptional expert shooter and served on the All-Marine Corp. Shooting Team while serving in the Marine Corp. He still resides in Puyallup, WA. Noconi, carrying on the tradition of military duty as a U.S. Marine, is proudly representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as well. His paternal great-grandparents were Martha May Perryman McHenry and Wayne McHenry. His grand parents, Jeri and Noel Brandon, live in Beggs and Jeri works for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s JOM Program. He is of the Sweet Potato Clan and his tribal town is Coweta.

Small Strides for a Big Success

by Kimberlee Little
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program, Eufaula Exercise Programs Manager

EUFULA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Pro-gram is always working on ways to increase awareness about di-abetes, specifically type 2 diabetes. Type 2 diabetes is on the rise, especially in cases among chil-dren which was almost unheard of 10 years ago. The American Diabetes Association says that type 2 diabetes can be prevented or managed with changes such as increasing your physical activity to 30 minutes a day, five days per week, and mak-ing healthier eating choices. Since November is National Diabetes Awareness Month, we thought it would be fun to highlight an individual who is taking these strides to help prevent diabetes. She enrolled in the 2006-2007 Tribal Walking Program, Nene Hvkoce. This is her story.



My name is Millicent Barnett and I joined the walking program to help me lose weight. I have rheumatoid arthritis and I wanted to become more active, but was afraid of how it would affect my joints. I was encouraged to join anyway when my friends began to enroll in the program and I learned of the incentives to be given away for walking. You earn monthly Nike incentives and I really wanted the chance to win a walking track for Eufaula. My two girls Michelle Estep, 14 and Jaime Estep, 12 also joined the program. They both par-ticipated in the Eufaula Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camp last year and really enjoyed it.

They also learned of their risk of diabetes and the importance of joining the walking program to be more active, especially in the off season of basketball and bowling. Joining the program with me and with friends like their bowling league sponsors Lisa Estep and Lydia Buck has showed them how to work together as a community. I have five children and was told throughout my pregnancies that I had borderline diabetes (pre-diabetes). I knew what changes I needed to make, but just never made them. As I have gotten older I have began to listen and learn more about diabetes. I worry about becoming like some of my other family members who are now on insulin to control their diabetes. Since joining the program, my health has really improved. I’ve lost weight, I no longer have to take my blood pressure medication and I don’t feel burn-ing and tingling in my feet like I had for many years. I have cut down on some of the foods that were not as healthy for me, such as chocolate candy. I don’t even crave them like I used to. I do have regular soda pop sometimes, but I know to go for a walk in order to get rid of those calories.

It’s not always easy to stay on track. When Eufaula didn’t win the walking track I was sad and almost gave up walking. But then I remembered that this program wasn’t just about winning the track, or nice Nike incentives, it was about improving my health and way of life. I knew I had to do it for me and my family. I am always finding ways to be active, especially through my job. I deliver meals to home bound elders and really enjoy it. I just continue to put my mind to walking for my health so I won’t get sick or have to take pills or shots. I still continue to lose weight and try to live a healthier lifestyle even after the program ended. The Tribal walking program is a lot of fun. We get a pedometer to wear that counts steps for you. You get the chance to earn incentives and the Fun Days that we have each month are a blast. We play games that help you get to know your teammates and gets your heart pumping, which is good for you. My kids were always looking forward to going to the Fun Day. I am so glad that my daughters Michele and Jaime and I didn’t quit the program. I earned a walking program t-shirt that I am very proud to wear. The walking program for this year is about to begin and I will be putting even more effort in it. I encourage the rest of you to join the Tribal Walking program, Nene Hvkoce. It will be good for you, and good for your health.

SPOTLIGHT



WHAT IS A VETERAN?

by Father Denis Edward O'Brien
United States Marine Corp.

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye.

Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together, a piece of shrapnel in the leg - or perhaps another sort of inner steel: the soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity.

Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem.

You can't tell a vet just by looking.

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

She, or he - is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another - or didn't come back AT ALL.

He is the Quantico drill instructor who has never seen combat, but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks and gang members into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade, riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor dies unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket, palsied now and aggravatingly slow, who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being - a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness, and he is nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say Thank You. That's all most people need, and in most cases it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded.

Two little words that mean a lot, "THANK YOU".

"It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protestor to burn the flag."

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

LOS ANGELES — Have you every heard of “MAHENWAHDOSE”? This tandem team is made up of Will Hill and Jehnean Washington. These two performers are storytellers that travel all around the United States showcasing their talents and abilities in the form of acting.

Will Hill is a full blood Muscogean Indian who is the Artistic Director of Mahenwahdose Production (Muscogee Creek 'word for It is true.') Mahenwahdose productions was the brainchild of Will Hill and Winona Henderson (Cherokee). Since it's inception in 1992, Mahenwahdose is a production company dedicated to producing accurate and entertaining presentations about Native America.

In 1997 Jehnean Washington who is of Seminole , Yuchi , Cherokee and Northern Plains Shoshone descent, joined team Mahenwahdose. Team Mahenwahdose has since performed in over 2000 venues. Will and Jehnean also became the first American Indians to perform at the new National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institute , Washington D.C. They are also on the Arts Council of 27 States.

More recently through a collaborative effort they put together a musical piece entitled “Trail of Tears” which appears on the “Song of America” album, which has since become Grammy nominated. The project was produced by Grammy award winner David Macias and Ed Peterson of 30 Tigers Productions, Nashville, Tenn..

The “ Song of America” album is available through i-tunes, Yahoo Music and wherever music is sold.

Team Mahenwahdose was selected to represent Oklahoma at the “ Oklahoma Experience” at Epcot center, Orlando ,Fla. starting with a record 31 performances with a special presentation on Nov. 7 for Governor Brad Henry and 150 Oklahoma Delegates.



On November 23 at the Tulsa PAC, Will and Jehnean will open the holiday offering for children of all ages and families for the Thanksgiving Day weekend entitled “The Adventure of Alex



photo submitted

Pictured above are Oklahoma's Premiere American Indian Storytelling team, Will Hill and Jehnean Washington, formally known as “MAHENWAHDOSE”. This outstanding duo recently went to Orlando to perform their famous act

Birdsong”. It is a delightful play about a young Indian girl and her adventures in the world of Native storytelling. Tickets for this show are on sale now! There is limited seating so be sure to check local ticketing outlets.

Will and his partner have traveled abroad and just finished a performance in Orlando and will be at the Charles Norman Theater beginning November 23.

Following are two press releases pertaining to Will and MAHENWAHDOSE. This information may be useful if you are interested in seeing what they have to offer.

On November 7, Oklahoma's premiere American Indian storytelling team, Will Hill and Jehnean Washington, formally known as

“MAHENWAHDOSE,” headed for Orlando, FL.

The dynamic duo, well known for their portrayals of the characters in Hill's Native family's repertoire of sto-

ries and the first American Indians to perform at the new National Museum of the American Indians, Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C., was selected to perform a series of their exciting presentations during a special celebration of Oklahoma's Centennial at the 2007 EPCOT International Food and Wine Festival.

Their final storytelling performance concluded at the evening of November 7 at a special Gala attended by 150 dignitaries, including Governor Brad Henry, representatives from the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and other Oklahoma delegates.

Hill was contacted by Chain of Events, and advised MAHENWAHDOSE has been chosen to participate in this historic event. All of this come right on the heels of the release of a folk album, ‘Song of America’, a 50-song project to be released in a three - CD set. Hill and Washington's song entitled, “Trail of Tears” will be included alongside the works of Blind Boys of Alabama, John Mellencamp, Martha Wainwright, Take 6, BR549 and the Black Crowes.

“Song of America” was the brain child of former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and Ed Peterson. Grammy winner David Macias and Ed Peterson released this album on the Split Rock/31

Tigers label. The Album is available in stores and on iTunes.

The American Indian Theater Company Presents A Mahenwahdose Production

“The Adventures of Alex Birdsong”

by Will Hill

November 23 and 24 @ 8:00 PM

and November 25 @ 2:00 PM

Charles Norman Theater

Tickets: Adults - \$8.50, Seniors and

Students - \$7.50, Children - \$5.00

Groups of 10 - \$6.50 each

ALL SEATS GENERAL ADMISSION

The nation's longest running American Indian Theater Company, AITCO (American Indian Theater Company) is once again bringing to the stage an original script by Will Hill, Artistic Director for Mahenwahdose Productions. The play “The Adventures of Alex Birdsong” features the multi-talented playwright and full-blood Muscogee Indian, Will Hill and his beautiful co-star, Jehnean Washington and a wonderful cast.

Hill and Washington were chosen to perform at EPCOT during the Oklahoma Experience celebration in Orlando in November, are known for their comedic talent and portrayals of the characters.

Native veteran completes the circle

“At that time, when people graduated high school, they just expected to get drafted.” “I wasn't afraid, I just waited for when my number was coming up.”

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — How can a person enter in to the month of November without thinking about Veterans Day? November is special month for many families, friends and individuals throughout the United States. Even though we should remember our veterans all year long, this time of year is a special time for fellowship, remembering and even mourning over those who gave their lives for this great nation. This month we celebrated Veterans Day by honoring the men and women of the armed forces for allowing us to have the freedom we sometimes take for granted.

No amount of words can describe how grateful we should be towards those who fought for our freedom. We remember these people each year, but do we every stop to recognize those who are close to us?

At the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex we are privileged to work with some of the men and women who went to battle for us. One of these veterans is Donald Gene Tiger. Donald has recently been hired as the Administrative Assistant of Veterans Affairs.

In 1968 Donald was drafted during the Viet Nam era and after he entered the Army he spent two years in the military.

When his first tour Viet Nam was

complete, Donald decided to reenlist and serve a second tour. Donald retired from the full-time military life in 1976, but shortly after that he entered in the 45th division of the National Guard.

While in the guard he spent seven years with the 45th and then entered with the 95th training division in Shawnee. His speciality was Infantry/ Communications and in the National Guard he was with the 160th field artillery as a fire direction center section chief. During his time with the 95th Division, Donald was a Drill Sergeant, with all of this time totalling 12 additional years in the reserves.

In 1990 Donald decided it was time to retire from active duty in the 45th and 95th division.

During the interview Donald talked about how he felt after being drafted. He explained the during the Viet Nam era, after guys graduated from high school they just expected to get a draft letter if they did not join the military immediately.

“Everyone was expecting to get drafted.” “I wasn't afraid, I was just waited for when my number was coming up,” said Tiger.

The experience brought about a lot of anxiety and not knowing what to expect for Donald. He emphasized



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Pictured above is Donald Gene Tiger. Donald is an Army Veteran who is currently serving as the Administrative Assistant in the Veterans Building at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Donald is seen standing in the center of the new Veterans Building which was recently completed.

how different it was getting into a place where you know nothing about and having to put all of the previous training into real life situations..

It was an honor to sit and talk with Donald that day. Before, I had respect and honor for those who were

and are veterans of the United States, but now I think I have found a new found respect for veterans.

So to you, Donald Gene Tiger, and all of the other brave soldiers who have fought for my freedom. THANK YOU.

OBITUARIES

PAUL ANDREW BEAR



BEAR

Funeral services for Paul Andrew Bear were held on September 19 at the Forest Creek Mission with Brother Wallace Gambler and assistant Broter Tim Lowe officiating.

He was born on February 24, 1947 in Claremore to George and Lucille Berryhill Bear.

He graduated from Wilson High School in 1964 and was a member of Forest Creek Mission.

He enlisted with the U.S. Marine Corp. on April 11, 1965 and served during the Vietnam War.

He served with the Engineer Equipment Operations.

He received the National Service Defense Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant.

He was employed as a towboat Captain for Midland Enterprises.

Survivors included wife Barbara; stepsons: Jim Pickle of AR., Brian Hannah of TN.; granddaughters Ashton and Rebecca Hannah; Brothers: Jay Buckner of Shawnee, Michael Bear of Henryetta, and Anthony Bear of NC.; Sisters: Rachel Ramirez of Okmulgee, Esther Bell of Shawnee, Janice Bear of Okmulgee, Janet Bear of Henryetta, Georgeann DeLaune of Henryetta, Marcella Jones of Broken Bow, Debbie Bear of Checotah; 19 nephews and nieces, and 27 great nephews and nieces.

Interment was at the Bear Family Cemetery.

DARRELL HOLLEYMAN



HOLLEYMAN

MODESTO, CA. — Funeral services for Darrell "Holley" Holleyman, were held October 13 at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Modesto.

Darrell was born and raised on a farm in the small town of Schuller, with family ties to both the Muskogee Nation and Ireland.

In 1938 he joined the army and worked as a radio operator.

He attended Oklahoma City University while in the army, and later served as a paratrooper in Europe.

He was honorably discharged from 1945.

After the war he moved to California and joined Pacific Telephone in San Francisco. In the ten years with PTT&T he developed into an outstanding salesman in the directory advertising division.

He met Violet Dais of Lodi in 1951 who also worked at the phone company whom he married.

The marriage that followed was wonderful for the rest of his lifetime.

In 1961 he launched a successful stockbroker career which culminated in owning his own firm, Waldron & Co., based in San Francisco. The six office firm flourished under his leadership.

His hobbies included fishing, traveling, collecting coins, and track stocks.

He was an active member in Geneva Presbyterian Church and Modesto's Masonic Lodge #675 where he rose to the rank of master.

Survivors included his wife Violet R. Holleyman; daughters: Penny Love of Portland, Or., and Peggy Agesen of Stockton; grandchildren: Jarrod and Hollie Agesen and Nathan and Benjamin Love; brother: David Holleyman of Stockton and sister Rhoda Schreiner of Riverside.

GLORIA JONES



JONES

GLENPOOL — Funeral services for Gloria (Barnes) Jones were held.

Gloria was born November 30, 1946 in Holdenville, to Thomas Alex Barnes and Leila (Barnett) Barnes of Wetumka.

She attended Eufaula Boarding School, she later completed Cosmetology School.

She was baptized as a young teenager at Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church in Wetumka.

She attended the Methodist Church and Salt creek Indian Baptist Church where she rededicated her life in the year of 2007.

She was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Alex Barnes; Brothers: Sidney Barnes, Charles Thomas Barnes, Sr., Leland James Barnes, and Thomas Ales Barnes, Jr.; Sisters: Joella Barnes, Betty Loretta Barnes, and Helen Lucille Barnes.

Survivors included her mother, Leila (Barnett) Barnes of Wetumka; Sisters: Melinda Ann Gibson of Chickasha, Micki Deer of Wetumka, and Paula Sue Herrod of Shawnee; One daughter: Sydney Grace Martin of Okmulgee; One son, James Scott Dean of Fort Cobb; Two granddaughters: Brandi Sharee Yahola and Annie Lahoya Yahola both Okmulgee; One Great-grandson: Chebonee Yahola; One great-granddaughter Dakota Renee Yahola of Okmulgee; A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives and friends.

MARCILLA LOWE



LOWE

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Marcilla Noon Lowe were held October 8, at the Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church with Pastors Harry Anderson, Wallace Gambler, Houston Tiger, and J.B. Fish officiating.

She was born on August 19, 1942 to Nathan and Lee Ann Noon in Wetumka.

Marcilla's hobbies included reading her bible scriptures, quilting, arts and crafts.

She loved to go on Mission work to Indian Reservations and work with the children.

Survivors included: Billy Proctor Jr. of Wetumka, Charlotte Salmon of Tulsa; Brothers: Palmer Noon of

Wetumka, Nathan Noon Jr. of Los Angeles, Ca., Michael Noon of Wetumka; Sisters: Thelma Noon of Wetumka, Joyce Noon of Tulsa, Phyllis Noon of Wetumka, Martha Noon of Arizona, Malinda Noon of Wetumka, Jenny Farrell of Jenks; One aunt, Lela Barnes of Wetumka; Six grandchildren; 45 great-grandchildren; A host of nieces, nephews, and numerous great nieces and nephews.

Interment was at the Sand Creek Cemetery.

CHIKUITA MCNAC

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Chiquita Maggie McNac were held on October 22, at the Newtown Methodist Church.

She was born on May 13, 1937 in Beggs to George Locust and Lila (Derrisaw) Berryhill.

She is married Joe McNac on September 5, 1987 in Coweta.

She retired from Muscogee (Creek) Nation CHR after 27 years of service and was a member of Newtown Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her adoptive parents, Roosevelt and Thelma Derrisaw; granddaughter Melanie Marie Parker; three sisters: two nephews; and a niece.

Survivors included her husband, Joe McNac of the home; her children: Dennis, Lisa and husband Steve, Douglas, Janet, and Rhonda and husband Eddie; adoptive daughter Robin Molle; step-children: Jacqueline, Robert, Rolland, Jennie, and Justina; twelve grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; six step grandchildren; one step great-grandchild.

Interment was at the Tallahassee Cemetery.

CRIMSON OSBORNE



BEVENUE

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Buzz Jackson (Jack) Bevenue were held November 7 at the First Baptist Church with Reverend Bridge Chuckluck and Alfred Berryhill officiating.

He was born on January 26, 1930 to William and Cinda (Harjo)

Bevenue.

Jack married Gayle Herberger on August 4, 1963 and have been residents of Okmulgee since 1969.

He worked as a truck driver for many years, and then worked as a mechanic for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He continued to work until he retired.

He was a charter member of the Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

He served in the United States Navy from November 7, 1947 until February 17, 1950 and then joined the Army on January 16, 1961 until February 20, 1962.

He was a proud lifetime member of both the Elks Lodge 1822 and VFW Post 1189. He served as State Commander, Post Commander, Quarter master, and Captain of the 1962-1963 All State Team for the VFW.

Jack was survived by his four daughters: Phyllis and Michael Biggiam of Claremore, Susan Bevenue of Glenpool, Jacque and Bryan McGertt of Okmulgee, and Yvonne and Stoney McIntosh of Hitchita; two sons: Billy Jack and Kathy Bevenue of Glenpool and Andrew Bevenue of the home; two brothers: Pat Bevenue of Sapulpa and Melvin Bevenue of Tulsa; 12 grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, and many, friends.

Pallbearers were Patrick Bevenue, Robert Satterfield, Sonny Bevenue, James Monroe, Michael Bevenue and Wayne Bevenue.

Honorary Pallbearers included his grandsons: Andrew Bevenue, Christopher Bevenue, Shawn Bevenue, Jordan Gresham, Jacob Hicks, Ryan Biggiam, Billy Jack Cark, Ricki Ford, and Zachary Mitchell.

RICHARD STEPHENS



STEPHENS

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Richard Cornell Stephens at the Floral Have Funeral Home in Broken Arrow on October 8, with Dr. Roger L. Thompson officiating.

He was born on September 28, 1956 at Gene Autry Air Force Base in Ardmore to Orel E. and Shirley A. Stephens.

He was employed with Flight Safety International in Broken Arrow and traveled throughout the world to such places as South Africa, India, England, and Spain. He was preparing to go to Ethiopia later this month.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents James A. and Opal B. Stephens and his maternal grandparents Matthew and Nellie K. McCosar.

Survivors included his mother Shirley A. Almerigi and her husband, George B. Almerigi of Okmulgee; three daughters: Jennifer R. Hartwell of San Diego, Hunny and Sunny Stephens of Clarksville, Ark.; two sisters, Lone J. Parkinson and her husband Matthew Parkinson of Damascus, Maryland and LaDonna K. Zeiders and her husband, John of Edmond; Also three nephews, James H. and Foster S. Zeiders and Michael Parkinson and two nieces, Angela T. Lawson and Ashley Parkinson.

Pallbearers included three nephews, and friends: Wayne Reed, and Randy Evins, and co-workers, Mark Mihalo, and Chad Ensz.

Interment was at the TeaCornell Cemetery with Reverend Joe Wallace Bruner officiating.

ISABELLA TAYLOR



TAYLOR

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Isabella Kay Taylor were held November 8 at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel.

Isabella was born on July 13, 2007 in Tulsa to Tonya Lynette LeGrand and Steven Linn Taylor.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandfather, Otto Taylor.

Survivors included her mother and father, sisters: Kelly LeGrand and Laci LeGrand, both of the home, Brook Taylor of Oklahoma City; brothers: Isaiah Eugene Taylor, Osea McCart and Paul McCart all of the home, Brent Harwell of Chattanooga, TN., and Steven Taylor, Jr. of Tulsa; Maternal grandmother, Wanda Mills of Morris; Maternal grandfather, Otto Taylor.

Interment was at the Grave Creek Baptist Church Cemetery.

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SPORTS

Creek athlete leading Dewar back to the top

• Junior Running back Ronnell Lewis torches #2 Cashion for 4 TDs, captures District B-4 title for the Dragons

by Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

CASHION — In Dewar, district titles are not foreign achievements. How could they be for a program that still holds the Oklahoma high school state record for consecutive football district crowns? From 1977-1990, nobody could call themselves champion if they shared the same division with the Dragons. And with a team chocked full of underclassmen superstars coupled with Friday's win over fellow unbeaten Cashion, there's reason to believe the 2007 version of Dewar football just might have started another streak.

In a game that featured two teams with matching perfect records (9-0) vying for the District B-4 crown, the visiting Dragons stormed out of Wildcat country with a 42-27 win, an undefeated season and the district championship. The result was aided by the play of star running back Ronnell Lewis, a junior, whose performance in Week 10 is one that will go down in Dewar football lore.

Lewis, an enrolled citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, carried 24 times gaining 211 yards along the way while scoring two rushing TD's. For those doing the math at home, that's an eye-opening 8.8 yards per carry. As if that wasn't enough, Lewis got involved in the passing game as well. He finished with two catches, both for touchdowns, for 97 yards. Oh, and when it was time to switch sides and stop touchdowns instead of scoring them, Lewis was also huge. From his defensive back position he registered 14 total tackles, seven of which were solo, and one for lost yardage. He also flipped



photo submitted/Billie Jean Been

Ronell Lewis Gridiron Star

Ronnell Lewis, junior, carries the ball earlier this season against Depew in a game in which he accumulated over 250 yards with 5 TD's. Lewis, who is an enrolled Creek citizen, will look to lead the Dewar Dragons to a state title as they begin their playoff run with Welch at home after disposing of Cashion for the District title in the season finale. For the season, Lewis has been one of the most feared backs in all the state rushing for nearly 2,000 yards with 39 TD's and 9 interceptions on defense. An absolute pleasure to watch, fans will have the luxury of seeing his talent one more year as he will be a senior in 2008 and undoubtedly one of the top recruits in Oklahoma.

the momentum for the Dragons with a forced fumble and an interception.

For Dewar head coach Josh Been, the performance of his star runner nearly rendered him speechless. "I mean when I look back on some of the football I've seen over the years, it might be hard to top that," said Been. "On such a big stage, with the District title on the line, to go out and give the performance he did was absolutely clutch."

For Lewis, his legendary game was simply a microcosm of the stellar season that he's had to date. He has

followed a breakthrough sophomore year with a junior campaign that has elevated him to one of the state's best all-around football players. In 2007, his regular season stats were mind-boggling considering that he saw limited time due to the mercy rule in 8-man football. He rushed for 1,801 yards with 37 touchdowns, while contributing nine interceptions and wreaking havoc on opposing offenses from his defensive position. Those numbers are sure to garner All-State accolades and interest from several college recruiters. According to his

coach, all of the recognition and success is a testament to Lewis' inner strength.

"He really is a special kid, just like all our kids here at Dewar," said Been. "He and his teammates don't shy away from the work aspect of football, the conditioning in the summer, and all of that is why they have been so successful this season."

But for now, the task at hand is taking the Dewar Dragons to the next level and winning a Class B state title.

"I really believe this is a special

ball club and that we can make a run," said Been. "When you look at our body of work throughout the season and the type of players that we have, I like our chances."

By knocking off second-ranked Cashion on their home turf, historic Maxon Field, Dewar announced themselves as a serious contender to hoist the trophy when the smoke clears. A big reason for that optimism is the play of their 6'2", 215 pound star. Not just for this year but his farewell season in 2008. Beware Class B, he's not done yet.

New Nike shoe only available through tribal programs

by Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

The new NIKE Air Native N7 shoe has created a buzz around Creek Nation. The shoes were designed to fit the typical Native American foot. Although they will not fit every Indian person's foot, they were designed using the foot scan of 224 Indian feet from across the country. The shoe is wider, taller, and there is more room in the toes box (4 widths wider for women and 2 widths wider for men than a traditional NIKE shoe). The shoe is not a diabetic shoe but it was designed to add more room for orthotics and the design is nearly seamless to reduce chaffing and irritation.

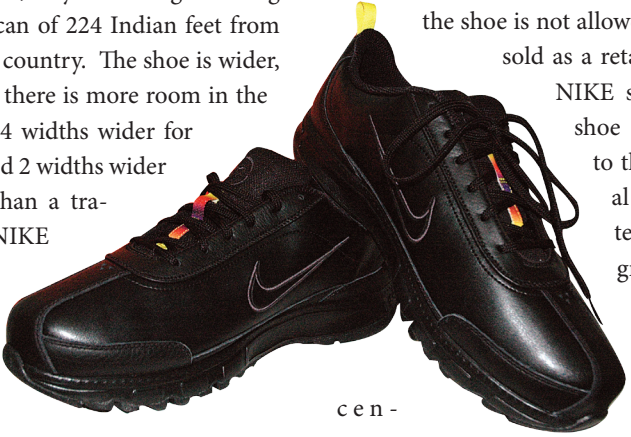
The Diabetes program has access to the shoe but the shoe can only be offered through the Tribal Walking program. After discussions with NIKE Native American Business Manager, Sam McCracken, we learned the shoe is not allowed to be sold as a retail item.

NIKE sells the shoe directly to the Tribal Diabetes Program to be used as an incentive to get people walking and exercising. The shoe will be available as an incentive that can be earned through participation in the Walking program.

Participants earn monthly points in the walking program. Participants can purchase a pair of the shoes using their points during the program or participants can wait until the end of the program and win a pair of shoes by earning reaching the High Stepper level of achievement. For more information about joining the Tribal Walking Program call the Diabetes Program Exercise Manager at your clinic.

Diabetes Program Contacts:

- Okemah area Scott Robison**
1-800-219-9458 Ext. 458
- Eufaula area Kimberlee little**
(918) 689-2540 Ext.257
- Koweta area Dewayne Tiger**
(918) 279-3392
- Okmulgee area Irene Culley**
(918) 756-9911 Ext. 334
- Sapulpa area William Fixico**
(918) 224-9310 Ext. 238



Injury cuts Murphy's senior season short

• Davenport star running-back only plays three games

by Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

DAVENPORT — A season that began with so much promise and expectation, never even got the wheels spinning. Davenport star running back Billy Jack Murphy saw his senior season last all of three games.

In 2006, as Billy Jack Murphy went, so did the Davenport Bulldogs. He was their unequivocal leader, a work-horse tailback that didn't flinch at toting the ball over 50 times a game. Murphy was coming off a junior campaign that took second fiddle to no other body of work. His stat line was phenomenal; 39 TDs and over 2,400 yards. The Creek athlete not only put up all-state statistics, but he introduced himself to the state's high

school football followers as one of the premier backs in Oklahoma.

For the first two weeks of 2007, he was as advertised. A vicious downhill runner that put the offense on his back. He was well on his way to another stellar season before fate stepped in and changed plans. In the team's third game of the season Murphy injured his right knee and was forced to leave the game, an eventual loss to fellow Class B and District 4 rival Dewar. Coaches and fans had hoped a cautious week of rest the following Friday would remedy the problem, so Murphy sat the next game. After sitting a week out Murphy was examined by doctors and cleared to play,

he returned in week 5 for a match-up with Paoli. During his first play, a punt return, he made a cut on his right knee and dropped. The game, his season and his Davenport career had come to an end. At press time, MRI exam results were not available, but things did not look good as DHS head coach John Greenfield said, "it looks like a tear in the ligament."

An unfortunate ending to a brilliant high school career for Murphy, but certainly not an end to his football days. Injuries happen in football, it's a hard fact. But on the gridiron, it's toughness that defines prolonged success. I think everybody that knows Murphy will agree that his future is still extremely bright.

HOTCORNER

Well, well, well Turkey month is here, and I would like to think that all my corner peeps had a nice October. For yours truly, the month of November is truly divine. The weather, the football, and most importantly the Thanksgiving dinner, are all reasons to love the 11th month on our calendar.

As I write this column I'm gathering research for a game that I'm calling tonight for radio station KOKL AM 1240 here in Okmulgee. I will be traveling to Sallisaw, also known as Black Diamond country, for a game between the hosts and the Okmulgee Bulldogs. It's really hidden how much work goes into a radio broadcast. You spend all day researching stats, evaluating game trends of each team, breaking down both offensive and defensive units and it's all to give the listeners a quality broadcast and a familiarity for the match-up that they are tuned in to. That's one of the things that I love about my play-by-play duties, all the behind the scenes work that goes into each game. You get a feel for the teams and what they like to do, what their tendencies are and it makes your product that much better. Of course, the game has to be competitive and action-filled as well. Tonight, I'm not feeling it. I'm thinking I'm going to go an hour and a half to see a blowout, when I could be 10 miles down the road doing the Morris-Henryetta showdown. But that's part of the biz folks. You take the assignment you're given and you go. It reminds me of the first job I ever had in radio play-by-play.

The year was 1998. Back then I was a wet behind the ears youngster at Eufaula High School. I was 16 years old and was offered the play-by-play basketball job for Eufaula High School on KFOX 102.5 FM. My main man Clark Davis was my color commentator, and the guy that gave me my first shot. I'll always be in debt to Clark for that. At the time he was "it." The distinct voice of the Ironheads, who had been doing radio since he was my age. He had that voice that was just insanely tailored for radio. You could be having a conversation with him on the telephone and be thinking, "is there going to be a commercial break here?" For him to offer the play-by-play job to a 16 year old kid was a little overwhelming for me



JASONsalsman
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and I remember being a little nervous the day of the game. We were scheduled that night to be at Connors State College for a game pitting our Eufaula Ironheads against Stilwell. Among the more memorable names from that first broadcast; Sundown Waite, a sharpshooting 'Stecate boy that was incredibly fun to watch. But it was a miracle that we were even able to see the game. There had been a big ice storm that weekend, surprise surprise, and the road to Warner was just a little slick. Back then

Clark drove this Wagoneer-esque vehicle that looked like something Mad Max would navigate. Needless to say, the thing was a little top heavy.

We get to the Checotah exit and slide off the road after hitting a patch of black ice. Now I didn't know what was worse, being on the side of the road in freezing temperatures possibly missing my first broadcast, or the fact that I

was stuck in Checotah. We're on the phone with the radio station, telling them we'll have to cut the pre-game show because we're running late. We rush to get there, and the scene was like something out of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. Me and Clark go tearing up the bleachers, our arms full of equipment, looking for a decent signal to get out to the radio station. We find one, just as the starting line-ups are being announced. Quickly we started plugging in the trusty Cell-Caster, got our mic's on, waited for the dial tone and the phone rang. "KFOX," came from the other end. "Put us on the air!" was the desperate gasp from Clark. And two seconds later, just as the ball was being thrown in the air, it went something like this. "We've come through hell and high frozen water but we are finally here. Jason Salsman and Clark Davis joining you as we are live at Melvin Self Field House on the campus of Connors State College in Warner for what should be an exciting evening of high school basketball." I almost couldn't breathe after it left my mouth. I thought to myself, "Wow, so this is how it starts?"

Clark Davis, who will celebrate 40 years in radio this March, told me something that I'll never forget that night. He said, "Nothing ever goes smooth in radio, that's what makes it so fun." True that.

SPORTS

Native athletes chosen to play in Oklahoma Sooner Classic

The Classic has grown to be the premiere post season tournament in the Southwest Region of the United States

TULSA — Michael Davis and Dean Lee will be participating in the Oklahoma Sooner Classic Football Tournament on November 16 - 18.

The Sooner Classic began in 1999, under the founding direction of Mr. Jim Winham, under the umbrella of the Union Youth Football Association. It was envisioned that local teams could have the opportunity to compete in a post-season tournament against other talented teams in and around the Tulsa area, across the State of Oklahoma and from surrounding states as well.

Each of the teams that has been in the Classic have brought with them highly talented players hoping to see how they would stack up against similar teams from the southwest and the State of Oklahoma. Originally, the classic was “bring your best” but has since been changed for the younger teams, with the 6th and 7th grade being “open”. The rules have changed a bit since 1999, but nonetheless, the Classic has grown to be the premiere post season tournament in the Southwest Region of the United States.

Since the inception of the Sooner Classic, the number of teams

has increased annually and continues to grow. Direction changed hands for 2001 and 2002 seasons where Mr. Fehrenbacher served double duty as the President of the UYFA and Sooner Classic Director.

Currently, Chuck Dandridge is the Directed of the Sooner Classic and has been since 2003. He as well as numerous other UYFA and Sooner Classic volunteers before him, have devoted many hours to ensure a successful and smooth event each year.

There have been many exciting and challenging games during the Sooner Classic Championships. Rockwall Texas is always a favorite as are the teams from Kansas City, and Springdale Arkansas just to name a few. The competition, just like the number of teams, continues to increase in level each year.

Five different fields are used to get the competition done within the two day tournament. The Championship Games are played on the finest high school venue in the State of Oklahoma—Union Tuttle Stadium.

Union Public Schools has been very helpful as have the retailers in the area to meet the needs of all the teams attending the Sooner Classic.

This is truly some of the finest

competition from the Southwestern United States you'll see in a two-day span. Whether you're a team looking for a fun and competitive tournament or just someone who enjoys watching youth football, be sure to attend the Sooner Classic Championships.

Both Michael and Dean are Native American athletes are from the Okemah Middle School. They have earned the great honor of being chosen to play in the Oklahoma Sooner Classic Football Tournament.

With Michael as tailback and Dean calling the signals, the Okemah 7th grade went undefeated with an 8 and 0 season record. Michael ran for 30 touchdowns, accumulating over 2800 yards rushing. Dean rushed for 6 touchdowns, threw for 8, 2 point conversions and also scored on 8 more 2 point conversions.

Michael is the son of Gary Davis, while Dean is the son of Ron and Courtney Lee and Tracey and Shannon Humphrey.

When Michael isn't thinking about or playing football he spends most of his weekends coon hunting. You might even catch him with a fishing pole in his hands if he isn't riding his 4 wheeler. Michael got his first dunk in basketball practice recently so look out for great things.



Dean Lee



Michael Davis

Dean is the football analyst guy. Dean can tell you which defense will work best against certain offenses and he even draws up some really great plays of his own. X-box football fans look out. Dean played AAU basketball during the summer, so keep an eye on him during the school season.

Both of the young men enjoy playing the different sports, basketball and track are their favorites outside football. They enjoy just hangin' with their friends; of course the almighty text message is a big part of their social lives; the classic rock station is a favorite for Dean while Michael enjoys

a more slower pace with the sound of smooth jazz and they wouldn't be guys if there wasn't a tune from some R&B artist playing on their stereos.

Michael is Creek/Seminole and Dean is Creek. Both athletes say that being able to bring some positive recognition to the youth of Native America helps them in their efforts.

This year's Sooner Classic gets underway with team check-in/ dinner Friday evening from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., on Nov. 16 at the Union Intermediate High School.

Shootout has grown into largest Native American grade school tournament in central Oklahoma

The number of teams have almost doubled since the tournament began in 2003

HENRYETTA — The Fifth Annual All-Indian Warriors Showcase Shootout basketball tournament, sponsored by 4 Love of the Game in association with Jerry Nick & Jerod Yaerger Family Dentistry of Okmulgee, will be held on Nov. 23-25 at the Henryetta Middle and High School gymnasiums.

Last year's tournament featured over 50 teams comprised of young, talented, Native American boys and girls basketball All-Stars from ages five to 14 years old throughout Oklahoma.

The First Annual Warriors Showcase Shootout fielded close to 30 teams.

Since its inception in 2003, teams came from places throughout Oklahoma, such as Bethel, Dewar, Dustin, Henryetta, Konowa, Morris, Okemah, Okmulgee, Sallisaw, Shawnee, Stillwater, Tahlequah and Wetumka, to battle each other in a double elimination format to determine the champion of each division.

Along the way, 4 Love of the Game

was able to create a program that raised \$350 in toys and Wal-Mart gift cards for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Angel Tree Project, as well as help a less fortunate Native American family enjoy the Christmas holiday.

“This time of year is all about giving to those who are less fortunate than we are,” said Victor Bear, 4 Love of the Game Vice-Chairman.

Age divisions are as follows: 5-6 years old (co-ed), 7-8 years old (boys & girls), 9-10 years old (boys & girls), 11-12 years old (boys & girls), and 13-14 years old (boys & girls). The deadline for entries was Friday, Nov. 16.

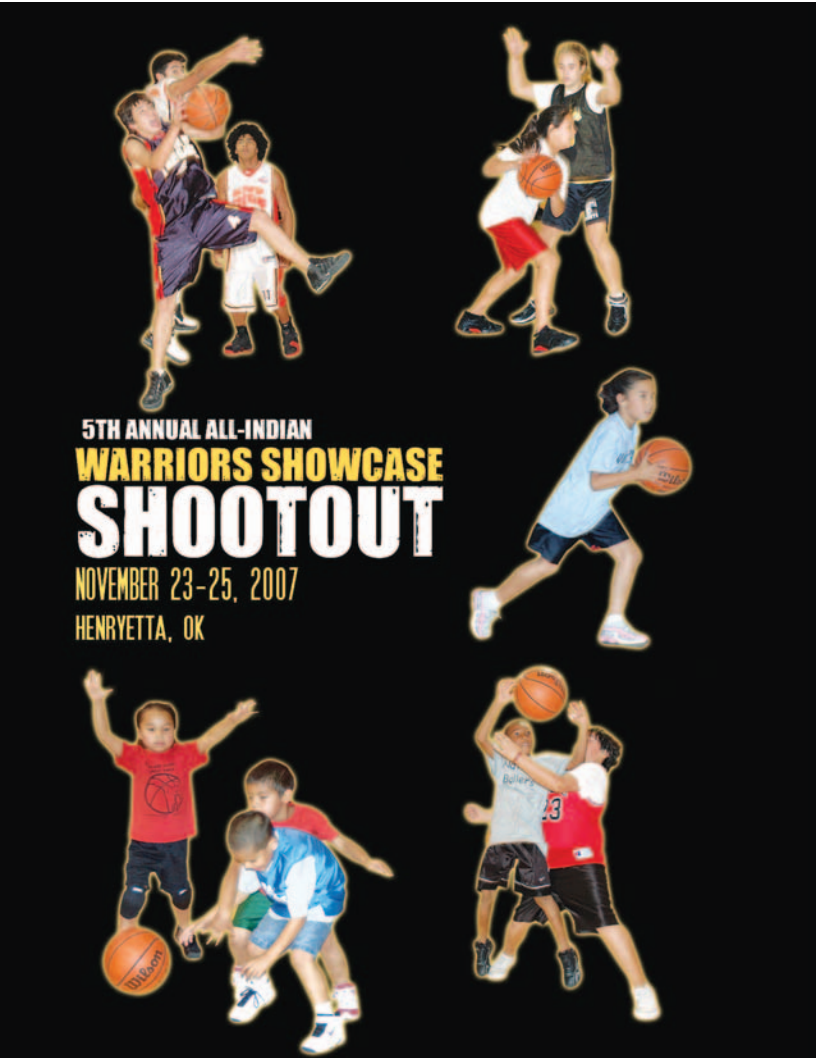
Time permitting, some special events will be held for tournament participants, such as the three-point, free-throw and knockout competitions. Also, fan challenges and giveaways will be held throughout each day of the tournament. All special events are free.

4 Love of the Game wishes to

thank and acknowledge the following platinum sponsors and advertisers: The 14 Foundation, Creek Nation Muskogee Casino, Duck Creek Indian Community, and Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise. Also a special thanks and acknowledgement to the Holdenville Indian Community for purchasing this year's tournament awards and the National Council for their continued support of Native American youth.

Along with the scholarships, sponsorships, camps and tournaments being offered to Native American Youth, 4 Love of the Game is currently working on developing a program that will assist high school students with purchasing a letter jacket and/or class ring. The student must carry a certain GPA and participate in a 4 Love of the Game event.

For more information, contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920 or visit www.4loveofthegame.org.



OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should Colleges give up on recruits that are in trouble with the law?

GERALD WOFFORD

Just how important the recruit is to the program and how he, or she, can benefit the team are the main topics here. Since the focus is on local educational institutions here, it can be noted that legendary coach Barry Switzer took into consideration all factors when deciding upon a potential recruit, regardless of his past. Thats not to say Switzer took any athlete with a shady past off the street and offered him a scholarship. But the point is, he took the time to get to

know his recruit. Looked at his family, his upbringing and made the judgement of whether the athlete could be helped or just needed to be let go. Coaches are on such a fast time-table they don't always take the time to get to know the recruit. At the same time, it should be noted that an athlete who doesn't have trouble with the law when arriving at school may not get in trouble later, its all a role of the dice, but don't give up too soon.

JASON SALSMAN

In light of the recent troubles at OSU, this is a hot topic. A prized recruit at Texas had a sexual assault case pending and his scholarship offer was pulled by Texas, he was then picked up by Oklahoma State and now has pled guilty and been convicted. Ok, this looks a little bad on the Cowboys, but I think recruits should know what they are dealing with when they start being considered for scholarship offers. You are going to get

to play football and go to college for free!! Get some kind of responsibility in your system kids. It is a PRIVILEGE, not a RIGHT to be a college athlete. And college coaches aren't going to take chances anymore of losing their jobs on kids that are likely to break rules and not do things right. In some instances second chances work out (OU's Dusty Dvoracek and OSU's Adarius Bowman) but that is the exception rather than the rule. Straighten up young'ns!

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Dr. Kenneth R. Hill ~ Dr. Stephen Fricke

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for more information regarding their Tribal Vision
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Creek Citizens Protest Centennial

FEATURES B1



Tree Topping

BUSINESS/GAMING - A5



MUSCOGEE NATION

NEWS

DECEMBER, 2007
Volume 37, Issue 12
MONTHLY

www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Chief Ellis vetoes bill

• Special election legislation returned to National Council



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, above, was seen signing the veto to the newly proposed legislation to hold another election for the Office of Principal Chief. This legislation was sent back to the National Council with several objections.

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Chiefs Office Moving Forward

In recent days, the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation passed legislation authorizing a special appropriation to the Election Board to conduct a special election for the Office of Principal Chief. After making its way to the desk of Chief A.D. Ellis, this legislation was vetoed and sent back to the National Council with objections. The way Chief Ellis sees it, the election is final due to the certified documentation from the Election Board. "I have the certification from the Election Board that says I am the winner. As far as I am concerned that's the end of it. " The inauguration for the elected officials of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is scheduled for January 5, 2008 in Covelle Hall at OSU Okmulgee.

MNN/Nicholas Howk

Tribe, Housing Division work toward creating offices in southern area

Submitted by Thomasene Osborn

WETUMKA — The Housing Division purchased the Wetumka Hospital in the early part of this year with the purpose of providing housing and tribal services to the citizens in Wetumka and surrounding cities. Historically, citizens in the southern areas feel they are not assisted adequately by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, partly due to lack of money and/or transportation.

"With the cooperation of tribal departments that our citizens rely and depend on," said Thomasene Osborn, Housing Division Manager, "we as a Nation will be able to assist our citizens in a relaxed, informal environment, all under one roof."

The Housing Division accepted bids and awarded the contract to Basin to remove asbestos and demolish the oldest section of the hospital. The demolition crew arrived on Monday, November 12, to begin preparation for demolition with a completion date of mid to late December.

Once the building is removed, an architect will be contracted to add a small lobby area, receptionist area and a drive thru for home buyers to make their house payments. The addition will also provide additional parking space for employees, citizens and the general public.

Two sections of the existing building will remain. May's Home Health is currently renting the west side of the building and the east side or section



MNN/Mallory Bible

Pictured above is the Wetumka Hospital that will house housing and tribal services.

will be rehabilitated by the Housing Division's Force Account Department.

Due to cost and space purposes, all offices are being set up to house one to two employees. Housing will provide the space rent free, but will have a set monthly fee for each employee for computer and phone lines.

The following is a list of offices designated for the tribe: three to Human Development, four to Social Services, one to Realty and one office to Lighthouse. These departments will have full time personnel. One area has been designated to the National Council and another office will be left available for tribal departments who may only have the need to be in our office one to two days a month.

Meetings will be conducted in the future with Citizenship and Tax

Commission to see if they would be willing to be in this office one to two times per month.

A security system, as well as fencing and a well lit parking lot will be installed for protection. If successful, Housing may consider the same type of project in other areas that have a need.

"I am very excited about this project and believe this is a groundbreaking experience for this area that will have positive results," said Osborn. "The City of Wetumka has welcomed us with open arms and have been very helpful throughout this project."

Shortly after all employees are moved in and situated an open house will be held. Should you have any questions, contact Thomasene Osborn at (918) 752-5319.

Creek Nation Casino holds tree topping ceremony

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

TULSA — On Nov. 28, a milestone took place at the construction site of the new Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa. This event was a tree topping ceremony to mark the completion of the major steel erection. Members in attendance were able to sign the final beam, allowing them to have their part in a structure that will be around for ages.

Builders throughout the history of the country have observed the traditional "topping out" ceremony formalizing the completion of the exterior framing of new buildings.

SEE UPDATE - A5



"This old iron working tradition marks the completion of a major steel construction."

Andy Vanaman
Premier Steel

Tribe loses citizen who helped shape government policy

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKMULGEE — Allen Harjo, whose work led to a landmark decision in the 1978 case of Harjo vs. Kleppe, passed away after a short battle with a rare lung disease on Monday, Nov. 26, 2007.

Even after he was diagnosed with the rare illness this past September, Harjo continued to serve as Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs with a humble spirit and a devotion

to assisting the people of the Creek Nation. "His presence and leadership will be missed," said Thompson Gouge, Public Relations Representative. "From my own personal experience, he looked after us employees with a father figure mentality. That's how I will remember Allen Harjo."

For more on the life of Allen Harjo, see B-5.



TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

Minutes of National Council meetings



LEGISLATIVE A4

How They Voted;



BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Tulsa Casino Update; MNBE Technology Services; Tulsa Casino organizes big plans for month of December



HEALTH A6

From the Desk of the CEO; Doctor's Note; Health Notes; Holiday Eating



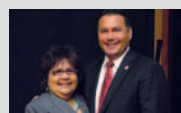
PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Senior Services Update; Did You Know; Housing Services



EDUCATION A8

2007 National JOM Conference held in Niagara Falls



From the Office of the Principal Chief

To all the Citizens of the Muscogee Creek Nation, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

District Court Filings for November 2007

Civil:		
QC Financial Services, Inc., dba National Quik Cash v. Lucindy Moss	Foreign Judgment	
Central Finance v. Monnie Underwood	Small Claims	
David Washington v. Rayna Thorton	Small Claims	
Tilda Harjo v. Louise Fish; Betty Mahan; and Beatrice Smith	Small Claims	
Royal Finance v. Farrel Blackbear	Small Claims	
Royal Finance v. Brett Sands	Small Claims	
Creditors Recovery Corp., v. Ashley Colbert	Foreign Judgment	
Sherry Corbin v. Patsy and Robert Moore	Small Claims	
Divorce:		
Christine Berryhill v. Lindell Berryhill Jr.	Divorce	
Lucille Tiger v. Jimmy Buntin II	Divorce	
Jana Slayton v. John Slayton	Divorce	
Protective Orders:		
Alene Warhop v. Willie Warhop	Ex-Parte	
Shirlene Ade v. Rhonda Beaver	Ex-Parte	
Shirlene Ade v. Talana Bear	Ex-Parte	
Shirlene Ade v. Annette Lowe	Ex-Parte	
Shirlene Ade v. Esther Morgan	Ex-Parte	
Shirlene Ade v. Martha Long	Ex-Parte	
Criminal Felonies:		
MCN v. Gordon Gale	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication	
	Ct. 2: Carrying Concealed Weapons	
MCN v. Amy Black	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check	
MCN v. Rachael Dilly	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check	
MCN v. Ronald Hall	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs	
MCN v. Paul Overton	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs with Intent	
MCN v. Raymond Clark	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication	
	Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs	
	Ct. 3: Possession of Illegal Drugs Paraphernalia	
Criminal Misdemeanors:		
MCN v. Christopher Horn	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication	
Traffic:		
MCN v. Matthew Head	No Insurance	
MCN v. Timothy Rice	No Insurance	
MCN v. Timothy Rice	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. Timothy Rice	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Nicholas Gibson	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. Nicholas Gibson	No Insurance	
MCN v. Eric Schwartz	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Richard Nolte	No Insurance	
MCN v. Richard Nolte	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Howard Penn	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. Howard Penn	No Insurance	
MCN v. Anthony Baker	No Driver's License	
MCN v. Anthony Baker	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Anthony Baker	No Insurance	
MCN v. Gary Collier	DUS	
MCN v. Ashley Porter	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Ashley Porter	No Insurance	
MCN v. Ashley Porter	No Driver's License	
MCN v. Tia Walker	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety	
MCN v. Jason Drew	No Insurance	
MCN v. Thomas Crowe	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land	
MCN v. Linda Harbert	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Amber Rivers	No Insurance	
MCN v. Amber Rivers	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. Michael Roberts	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Michael Roberts	No Insurance	
MCN v. Kerry Weeks	No Insurance	
MCN v. Richard Viss	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land	
MCN v. Richard Viss	Possession of a Loaded Firearm on Tribal Land	
MCN v. Otis Ballard	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Kari Gord	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Kari Gord	Driving without a License	
MCN v. Steven Shingleton	Failure to Stop at Stop Sign	
MCN v. Steven Shingleton	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. Steven Shingleton	No Valid Insurance	
MCN v. Jesse Stover	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. Corey Barton	Trespassing on Tribal Property	
MCN v. Eugene Lowe	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. James Baccus	Driving Under Suspension	
MCN v. Brandon Davis	Open Receptacle of Alcohol Beverage On Tribal Property	
MCN v. Loretta Crabtree	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property	
MCN v. Corey Giddens	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Charles Essman	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Eddie Thompson	No Insurance	
MCN v. Cheru Jackson	No Driver's License	
MCN v. Sheril Green	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Travis Lander	No Insurance	
MCN v. Travis Lander	DUS	
MCN v. Bruce Bailey	No Insurance	
MCN v. Bruce Bailey	Expired Tag	
MCN v. Louie Montgomery	Transporting Open Container	
MCN v. Rachel Brewer	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety	
MCN v. Cam Diep	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety	
MCN v. Kevin Hobbs	No Driver's License	
MCN v. Marcus Hale	No Insurance	
MCN v. Marcus Hale	DUS	
MCN v. Frank Kostich	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property	
MCN v. Jacob Schultz	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property	
MCN v. Alfreda Burnett	DUS	
MCN v. Alfreda Burnett	No Insurance	
MCN v. Keith Cousins	DUS	

EXECUTIVE

MCN v. Joseph Guthrie	Reckless Driving
MCN v. Jose Yanez	No Insurance
MCN v. Bruce Hall	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Andrew Crume	Expired Tag
MCN v. Danielle Weimer	Expired Tag
MCN v. Danielle Weimer	No Insurance
MCN v. Asinyefigha Papanye	DUS
MCN v. Javier Gonzales	No License
MCN v. Christy Feltz	DUS
MCN v. Christy Feltz	Expired Tag
MCN v. Benjamin Njoroge	Expired Tag
MCN v. Danny Green	Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
MCN v. Andrew Crume	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Andrew Crume	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Javier Gonzales	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Brent Jackson	No Insurance
MCN v. Brent Jackson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Don Nguyen	Expired Tag
MCN v. Morgana Redford	No Driver's License
MCN v. Tarrence Reed	No Insurance
MCN v. Nicole Mark	No Insurance
MCN v. Kerilynn Timp	DUS
MCN v. Kerilynn Timp	Expired Tag
MCN v. Elizabeth Wells	No Insurance
MCN v. Henry Kolliie	Expired Tag
MCN v. Brian Scrapper	Expired Tag
MCN v. Brian Scrapper	DUS
MCN v. Lance Madden	No License
MCN v. Anna Bornstein	Expired Tag
MCN v. Anna Bornstein	DUS
MCN v. Danny Swayze	Disorderly Conduct

Legal Notices

DISTRICT COURT OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION (OKMULGEE DISTRICT)			
IN RE:)		
)		
APPLICATION OF RHONDA KAY BEAVER, as PARENT AND NEXT FRIEND OF)		
ISAAH CAINE LOWE-GEORGE, a Minor	)	Case No.	CV 2007-95
FOR CHANGE OF NAME.)		
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION			
STATE OF OKLAHOMA:			
TO:	RAY DANIELS GEORGE, FATHER OF ISAAH CAINE LOWE-GEORGE		
GREETINGS:			
Take notice that a Petition For Change Of Name And To Correct Birth Certificate has been filed in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by Rhonda Kay Beaver and is set for hearing on December 3, 2007 at 10:00 A.M. in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capital Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma. You may appear or file at the hearing or file a written protest prior to the date set for hearing.			
	November, 2007.		
		NANCY JUKICH , Court Clerk	
		By: Deputy	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT			
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)		
	)	CASE NO.	AD-2007-08
A.R.D.)		
	)	Before the Honorable Judge	
Moore			
A minor child.	)	Judge of the District Court	
NOTICE OF HEARING BY PUBLICATION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PUTATIVE FATHER			
TO:	Charles E. Nash 11815 N. 320 Road Morris, OK 74445		
On May 25, 2007, an Application was filed in this Court for the termination of the parental rights of the putative father of A.R.V., a minor child born out of wedlock at Hastings Hospital in Talequah, Oklahoma, on 8-13-2005, to Hadley Vardell, now Bowen, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said Application is set for hearing on the 10th day of October, 2007 at the hour of 9:00 o'clock A .M.			
Petitioner(s) have alleged in their Petition that you are the putative father. Petitioners have alleged that your paternal rights should be terminated because you have failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish your parental rights with the child.			
YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS REGARDING THIS CHILD.			
YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS REGARDING THIS CHILD AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHT HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.			

Letters to the Editor:

Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Citizen expresses appreciation for higher education scholarships.

Editor:
I would like to thank the Muscogee Nation for awarding me a higher education scholarship. This scholarship has allowed me to focus more on school and not have to worry about the expenses of law school. I hope that other people can benefit as much as I have due to this award. Thank you very much, the help is very appreciated.
Sincerely,
Brett Rutherford, Tulsa, OK.

Citizen looks to reach out to Veterans

Editor:
I am pleased to introduce myself to you as a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen and the Veterans Administration Social Worker at the Tulsa Outpatient Clinic VA. I know many Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veteran's and other Native Veteran's receive some part of their Healthcare from the Veterans Administration Helathcare system. I wanted those veterans to also know, that besides the medical care they receive at the VA, there are many other ancillary services and social and financial programs available to them. As the social worker for the clinic, I am here to assist veterans with those services and programs.
Please stop in anytime, I am in room 109 at the clinic. I am honored to say, thank you for serving our country and I look forward to assisting you at the Tulsa Outpatient Clinic VA.
Finally, I would like to say thank you to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department for supporting my education. That support has enabled me this opportunity through the VA to give back in some way to our Native communities.
Mvto,
Gary D. Grayson, LMSW

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate The Muscogee Nation News in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LEGISLATIVE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE OCTOBER 27, REGULAR SESSION.

OCTOBER 27, REGULAR SESSION
ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVES SHIRLENE ADE-EXCUSED, SAM ALEXANDER (WILL BE LATE), LARRY BIBLE-EXCUSED, THOMAS MCINTOSH -EXCUSED AND TOM PICKERING.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• MOTION CARRIED (20-0-0), REPRESENTATIVE RON CLEGHORN MADE A MOTION TO MOVE NCA 07-279 TO TOP OF THE AGENDA;
• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-279, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A CREEK TRIBAL CITIZEN TO ACCOMPANY HER HUSBAND ON A MEDICALLY RELATED TRIP WHILE HE RECEIVES TREATMENT FOR A FORM OF CANCER SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; E. LAGRONE (\$5,762.00)

• APPROVED (20-0-0) TR 07-094, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REQUESTING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO RENDER AN OPINION REGARDING THE CERTIFICATION OF TAX EXEMPT STATUS FOR TRIBAL LANDS OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING

• APPROVED (13-7-0) TR 07-095, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH GROUP TO DEVELOP AND MANAGE FIVE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FUNERAL HOMES AND TO PURCHASE A GROUP LIFE INSURANCE PLAN WHICH WILL PROVIDE FULL SERVICE FUNERALS FOR MEMBERS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR(S): E. LAGRONE; R. JONES

VOTING NO WERE: TRAVIS SCOTT, BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, PAULA WILLITS AND JOHNNIE GREENE

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-0-0) TR 07-098, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BASIN ENVIRONMENTAL & SAFETY TECHNOLOGIES TO REMOVE MOLD AT THE NEW DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES

• APPROVED (20-0-0) TR 07-099, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ADOPTING AN EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE POLICY FOR USE WITH INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT FUNDING SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES

• APPROVED (20-0-0) TR 07-100, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH HART ROOFING, L.L.C. TO REPAIR THE ROOF ON THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES

• APPROVED (17-3-0) TR 07-106, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO CONSTRUCT AND SEEK FUNDING FOR THE NEW EUFAULA HEALTH CENTER SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. MCINTOSH; T. PICKERING; G. TIGER

VOTING NO WERE: BILL FIFE, JEFF FIFE AND BO JOHNSON;

• APPROVED WITH CORRECTIONS (11-10-0) NCA 07-117, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE "HARRY LONG LIVING TREASURE FUND" OF BACONE

COLLEGE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENTS SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$50,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: DUKE HARJO, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, KEEPER JOHNSON, JAMES JENNINGS, SYLVANNA CALDWELL, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, PAULA WILLITS AND JOHNNIE GREENE

• RETURN TO COMMITTEE (17-3-0) NCA 07-234, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO PURCHASE A HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE VAN FOR A SEVERELY HANDICAPPED CITIZEN SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING

VOTING NO WERE: ROGER BARNETT, ANTHONY NOTARO AND THOMAS YAHOLA;
• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-244, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUILDING SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON (\$155,000.00)

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-256, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SAND CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH FOR WATERLINE TO CHURCH SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE (\$39,553.00)

REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS YAHOLA WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;
• APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-0-0) NCA 07-260, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO LITTLE CUSSETAH BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING ROOF SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO (\$2,880.00)

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-261, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE FIRST INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF MUSCOGEE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE (\$31,350.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-0-0) NCA 07-264, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SALT CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND WEWOKA INDIAN METHODIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO LAWNMOWERS SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE (\$14,662.00)

• APPROVED (17-3-0) NCA 07-268, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 28 28, § 7-106 REGARDING RENOVATIONS TO THE NATION'S PROPERTY SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES

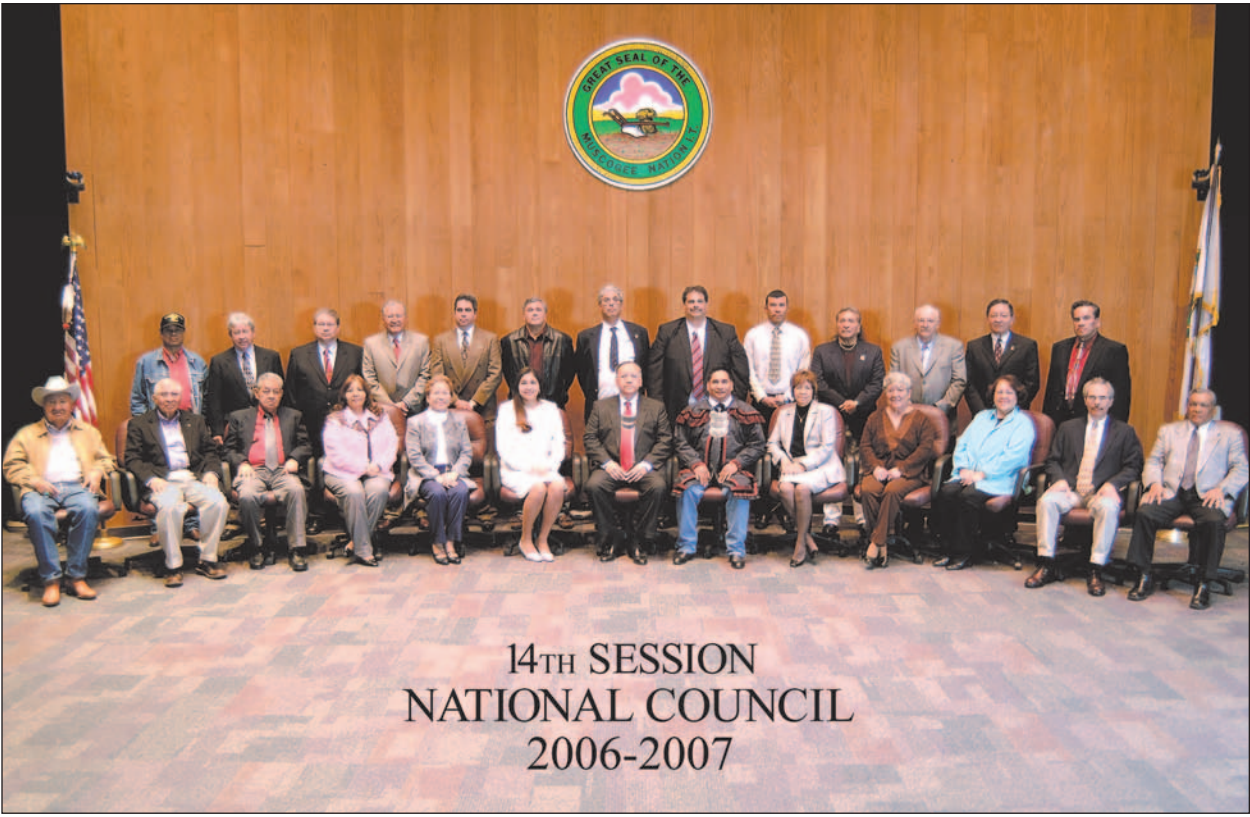
VOTING NO WERE: EDDIE LAGRONE, JEFF FIFE AND JAMES JENNINGS;

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-269, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OXFORD ROUND TABLE AT THE HARRIS MANCHESTER COLLEGE IN OXFORD, ENGLAND SPONSOR: KEEPER JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON (\$3,963.18)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-0-0) NCA 07-270, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-086 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 1ST ANNUAL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENS DIABETES AWARENESS SUMMIT) SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-272, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE THLEWARLE INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A TRACTOR AND RELATED EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$22,850.00)

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-273, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: JAMES JENNINGS (\$3,000.00)



• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-280, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, §3-203, ENTITLED "APPLICATIONS" SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

REPRESENTATIVE SAM ALEXANDER ARRIVED;
REPRESENTATIVE SAM ALEXANDER'S NAME WAS NOT CALLED AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (19-1-0) NCA 07-284, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE 120TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION, FAMILY READINESS GROUP SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES (\$14,500.00)

VOTING NO WAS: THOMAS YAHOLA;
REPRESENTATIVE SAM ALEXANDER'S NAME WAS NOT CALLED AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;
• APPROVED (19-0-0) NCA 07-286, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM SPONSOR: LENA WIND (\$340,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-288, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE AND ELEC-

TRIC MOTORIZED MEDICAL CHAIR FOR A CREEK TRIBAL CITIZEN SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR(S): R. CLEGHORN; E. LAGRONE (\$2,954.00)

REPRESENTATIVE SAM ALEXANDER'S NAME WAS NOT CALLED AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (18-1-0) NCA 07-292, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST IN THE ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: BO JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE (\$1,394.78)

VOTING NO WAS: JEFF FIFE;
REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-294, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-266 (APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008) SPONSOR: THOMAS YAHOLA

• MOTION TO RECONSIDER WAS RECONSIDERED AND POSTPONED (20-0-0) NCA 07-268, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 28 28, § 7-106 REGARDING RENOVATIONS TO THE NATION'S PROPERTY SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JONES WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• MOTION TO RECONSIDER

WAS RECONSIDERED AND APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-0-0) NCA 07-279, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A CREEK TRIBAL CITIZEN TO ACCOMPANY HER HUSBAND ON A MEDICALLY RELATED TRIP WHILE HE RECEIVES TREATMENT FOR A FORM OF CANCER SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; E. LAGRONE (\$5,762.00)

NOVEMBER 5, EMERGENCY SESSION
REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED WERE: EDDIE LAGRONE, CHERRAH QUIETT AND JEFF FIFE WILL BE RUNNING A FEW MINUTES LATE;
REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT WERE: TOM PICKERING, THOMAS MCINTOSH, ROBERT JONES AND LARRY BIBLE;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
REPRESENTATIVE TOM PICKERING & JEFF FIFE ARRIVED;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (20-0-0) NCA 07-300, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO BORROW PERMANENT FUND MONIES TO REPAY THE MERRILL LYNCH LOAN AGREEMENT SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$26,000,000.00)

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 07-303, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-266 (APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2008) SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT

Foster Care & Adoption Program

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration is a non-profit social services agency, established to implement the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Children and Family Services Administration offers foster family recruitment, certification and adoption services to help children retain the unique values and customs of their Indian heritage.

BUILD THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children & Family Services
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447
(800) 521-5432 • (918) 732-7869

OUR CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION
Fostering and Adopting maintains the integrity of our past and builds the future of our Nation.
Adopt a Muscogee (Creek) Child or be a Foster Parent
www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

LEGISLATIVE

HowTheyVoted

- Approved (20 - 0 - 0) NCA 07-279, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Creek Tribal Citizen to accompany her husband on a medically related trip while he receives treatment for a form of cancer.



Richard Berryhill
Wagoner District
Seat A
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes because its helping our people and I thought that’s why we are here to help our people.”



Thomas Yahola
Tukvpvtce District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes because a citizen requested help, and our duties are to help our tribal citizens upon request.
I was helping a citizen.”

- Approved (13 - 7 - 0) TR 07-095, A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to negotiate a contract with the Golden Touch Group to develop and manage five Muscogee (Creek) Nation Funeral Homes and to purchase a group live insurance plan which will provide full service funerals for members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



Samuel Alexander
Tulsa District
Seat D
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes simply because it was giving authorization for Chief Ellis to look into it. And I thought he should have authorization to look into it.”



Sylvanna Caldwell
Tukvpvtce District
Seat A
Voted: No

“ I voted no because it was to much money for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation , and it would be making the other people richer.”

- Approved (17 - 3 - 0) TR 07-106, A Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Executive Branch to construct and seek funding for the new Eufaula Health Center.



Lena Wind
Okfuskee District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes because they have outgrown the facility there, and to secure a better health environment for our Creek citizens to meet their health needs.”



Bill Fife
Okfuskee District
Seat C
Voted: No

“ I voted no because I didn’t see a development plan. They need to plan out these developments and they need to be involved in the planning.”

- Approved with corrections (11 - 10 - 0) NCA 07-117, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to the “Harry Long Living Treasure Fund” of Bacone College for scholarships for Muscogee (Creek) students.



Ron Cleghorn
Tulsa District
Seat A
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes to kill this bill because I was concerned about the accountability of where the money would go. I wanted to make sure the money was used on our Creek students and not taking out for administration costs .”



Duke Harjo
Creek District
Seat A
Voted: No

“ I voted no because Creek students already receive money from the tribe, and by giving them this scholarship the students will be getting twice the money as the other students. I just didn’t think that was fair.”

- Return to Committee (17 - 3 - 0) NCA 07-234, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds to purchase a handicapped accessible van for a severely handicapped citizen.



Eddie LaGrone
Muskogee District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes to Return to Committee because no dollar amount was indicated in the legislation no included details about how much the appropriation needed. Their just wasn’t enough details.”



Anthony Nataro
McIntosh District
Seat B
Voted: No

“ I voted no to Return to Committee because I wanted to give this handicapped Creek citizen a assessable van to help them. ”

- Approved (17 - 3 - 0) NCA 07-268, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending Title 28, 28, , § 7-106 regarding renovations to the Nation’s property.



Paula Willits
Tulsa District
Seat E
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes because someone specific needs to organise everything so everybody is on the same track.”



James Jennings
Okmulgee District
Seat E
Voted: No

“ I voted no because I didn’t feel the bill was complete at the time.”

- Approved (20 - 0 - 0) NCA 07-269, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to a Muscogee (Creek) citizen selected to participate in the Oxford Round Table at the Harris Manchester College in Oxford, England.



Cherrah Quiett
Tulsa District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes because its a great educational opportunity for our citizens to be represented in such a program.”



Anthony Nataro
McIntosh District
Seat B
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes because we are a proud nation. And this educated citizen is a great example of what our nation stands for, and a great showpiece for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation .”

- Approved (19 - 1 - 0) NCA 07-284, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to the 120th Engineer Combat Battalion, Family Readiness Group.



Ron Cleghorn
Tulsa District
Seat A
Voted: Yes

“ I voted yes because .I support all the Veterans, and all the men and women in active duty around the world.”



Thomas Yahola
Tukvpvtce District
Seat B
Voted: No

“ I voted no because I went to the program and was part of the honor guard, and in the presentation they said everything was taken care of with them.”

Tulsa Casino Update



MNN/Nicholas Howk

Tree Topping

continued from A1

The topping out ceremony dates back to pre-Christian times in Northern Europe and the theory was that the tree was an offering to the tree spirits, who had to be pacified because of the timber cut down for the building of the structure.

During the Middle Ages, the great cathedrals were not finished in one phase but in stages over hundreds of years. As each phase was completed (or stopped due to lack of funds), a ceremony was held in which the top of a tree was cut and affixed to the last piece of stone set on the project. Like a tree, the church was considered to be a living thing, which would continue to grow.

Early in the modern era, the story goes that the tree was a celebration of life that no worker was killed building the structure. Once high-rise construction started in major cities, the iron worker crews were mostly Native Americans and they believed that no structure should be taller than the tallest tree, therefore a tree rode to the top of the tallest steel beam.

This celebration was proceeded by a bar be que dinner on the second floor of the new structure. Member from Flintco, Premiere Steel, the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprises, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and a host of others were in attendance that day. Following the dinner, everyone was escorted to the ground floor to prepare for the beam and the tree to be hung.

As the beam was hoisted into the air, bystanders stared in amazement a the huge beam topped with the tree, the American Flag and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Flag. The momentous occasion was surely a great moment in Muscogee (Creek) Nation history. Seeing this stage of the new casino being complete is just a small sign of what is to happen in the future.

MNBE Technology Services

Working on Oklahoma's Higher Education Institutions



by Dave Huggard

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise

STILLWATER — Over the past few months, the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has been installing security systems in some of Oklahoma's Higher Education Institutions to help provide Homeland Security.

The installation of the surveillance system for Boone Pickens Stadium at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater has been completed by the Security Services Division of Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise. The State-of-the-Art System included 60 outdoor Pan/Tilt Zoom Cameras mounted in rugged domes with eight monitors for viewing. (See photo)

In addition to the original job, a Matrix has been added to allow viewing of any camera or group of cameras to be viewed on any of the eight monitors.

The system is also set for remote viewing allowing the Oklahoma State University Police Department to view and control any of the cameras from their office.

The additional security for Gallagher-Iba Arena at Oklahoma State University included upgrading the existing surveillance system as well as adding five outdoor Pan/Tilt Zoom cameras for this location. (See photo) These projects were funded through "Homeland Security".

There is an expansion project at the West end of Boone Pickens Stadium. MNBE Security Services is highly recommended by the OS-UPD and hopes to be doing additional work in the near future for OSU.

Tulsa Casino organizes big plans for month of December

TULSA — Creek Nation Casino –

Tulsa now featuring games you enjoy playing in Vegas! Blackjack and Poker, Daily Poker tournaments, Full Moon Café inside the casino, offering American Cuisine 24/7. Expansion area featuring over 600 new games with High Stakes gaming room, Non-Smoking Room, open 24 Hours, 7 Days a Week, complimentary Valet Parking. Located at 81st and Riverside in South Tulsa. We Know Why You Play

CASINO PROMOTIONS:

MERRY MYSTERY

JOIN US FOR MERRY MYSTERY ON SUNDAYS AND THURSDAYS WITH FOUR PROGRESSIVE DRAWINGS AT 12 PM..... 3PM..... 6PM..... AND 9PM..... TOTALING \$2,500 EACH DAY. ALSO, BE THE FIRST PLAYER TO WIN A JACKPOT ON THAT DAY'S CHOSEN VGT MYSTERY MACHINE AND WIN DOUBLE THE JACKPOT! NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 27.

WINNER WONDERLAND (LADIES NIGHT):

All ladies who come out to Creek Nation Casino on Mondays starting at 6 p.m. receive \$10 Match Play, plus hourly \$500 progressive cash drawings take place from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Mondays at 6 p.m. through January 28).

WINNER WONDERLAND (MEN'S NIGHT):

All guys who come out to Creek Nation Casino on Wednesdays starting at 6 p.m. receive \$10 Match Play, plus hourly \$500 progressive cash drawings occur from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (Wednesdays at 6 p.m. through January 30).

SENIORS BUCKS AND BREAKFAST:

Seniors, we have the perfect getaway just for you! The first 500 guests 55 and up each Monday and Tuesday will receive \$4 off the breakfast buffet at the Full Moon Café and \$5 match play on designated machines (7 a.m. – 11 a.m.). A weekly drawing will be held on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. for a lucky senior to win a one night stay at the Cedar Rock Inn Bed and Breakfast. (Mondays and Tuesdays, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m.).

LOOK INTO THE FUTURE - NEW YEAR'S EVE 2008:

Ring in the New Year at Creek Nation Casino and let us bring you good fortune for 2008. Drawings for \$2,008 will occur every half hour from 6p.m.-2a.m. Everyone will be entertained throughout the evening by Arabian night belly dancers, stilt walkers, living statues, silk climbers and ring girls suspended from the ceiling. Customers will also be entertained and mesmerized by Gina in a box. Is she human or a mannequin?

LATE NIGHT HOT SEATS:

Join us and the rest of the night owls Sunday thru Wednesday for \$100 progressive hot seat drawings from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. on all seats in the house including electronic games, blackjack and poker. Now thru De-

cember 26.

66ERS DISCOUNT TICKET NIGHT:

Bring your Creek Nation Casino-Tulsa Players Club Card to the Tulsa 66ers game on Saturday, December 15 to receive \$5 off your ticket!

BLACKJACK PROMOTIONS:

Club 21 is back in a big way in the blackjack pit! Tuesday nights are now Club 21 Night. Be one of the first 200 players to join the party in the pit from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. each Tuesday night and receive a complimentary gift as well as the Club 21 snack at the Full Moon Café while listening to our resident DJ spinning in the background. The best part about entering the Club on Tuesdays is that you receive Free Admission. By that we mean NO ANTES! You can also win extra cash by receiving a backdoor blackjack of clubs which will award you a \$5 bonus as well. Another new bonus is the Last Call Bonus which will award you \$25 if you receive a suited clubs blackjack on the last hand of the shoe.

POKER PROMOTIONS:

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT:

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold'em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 p.m. and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma's most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9:30 a.m. The tournaments are open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$50.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS

Ladies Night Texas Hold'em tournaments start at 7 p.m. every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.

MEN'S NIGHT - THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino's Men's Night no-limit Texas Hold'em tournament starts at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 p.m. (\$115 total buy-in).

ENTERTAINMENT:

Saturday, December 1 – Earl Clark
Thursday, December 6 – Steve Liddell
Friday, December 7- Usual Suspects
Saturday, December 8- Jessica V
Thursday, December 13- House
Friday, December 14- South 40
Saturday, December 15- Phillip Zoellner
Thursday, December 20- TJ McFarland
Friday, December 21- 5 Bucks
Saturday, December 22- Full Flava Kings
Thursday, December 27- Merle Jam
Friday, December 28- The Element
Saturday, December 29- Smilin Vic

H3 GIVEAWAY

NOVEMBER 1ST – DECEMBER 19TH

Everyday from November 1st – December 19th customers can earn entries into a drawing for a new Hummer H3 held on December 19, 2007 by hitting \$100 or more on any VGT machine. *Must have a Cache Card to participate and must be present to win.*

CREEK NATION Casino OKMULGEE

HWY 75 @ EUFAULA ST. • (918)756-8400
www.cncokmulgee.com

THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

HEALTH

From the Desk of the CEO

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

By Judy Aaron

Chief Executive Officer

The Community Health Representative (CHR) Program offers a wide range of services for the clients it serves. Many times you may see them on the highway transporting clients to the clinic or hospital appointment or conducting health screening at different places in the community. The CHRs serve as resources in many other areas also.

As we enter into the winter months please take time to assess the safety of your home with the use of heat at this time of the year. Heating devices, such as space heaters or wood stoves, can become a source of danger.

If you have questions about the safety of your home or concerns about heating your home, the CHR program is available to answer your questions. Our CHRs conduct home visits to complete assessments, or deliver items to clients, also when they are in the area they may check on you to see how you are doing.

A major part of the CHR program is education in health promotion and disease prevention. Health fairs are conducted to conduct screenings, but also to provide information to individuals

to manage their health. The CHRs strive to have a health fair in every community so if a community is interested in having a health fair please let us know.



Judy Aaron

A new effort to assist individuals with their health care concerns is a Lupus Support Group in the Holdenville community. Every CHR serves their respective community in a different way depending on the needs of the community.

This year the CHR Program is also participating in the National Relief Charities program to enhance partnerships with local communities. Individuals are able to volunteer some time each week in order

to receive household items such as laundry detergent, toiletries, etc. The CHRs are always looking for new ways to meet the various needs of their clients.

This year, a couple of our CHRs were recognized nationally and state-wide: Ms. Georgia Cook was recognized as the 2007 CHR of the Year, and Ms. Christina Roberts was named as the CHR First Responder of the Year at Oklahoma's state EMS Conference.

It is always wonderful when members of our staff are recognized and we couldn't be prouder. I would also like to recognize all of our CHR staff who keep watch out in our communities for those in need. I have heard stories of emergency packages delivered to families who have lost their homes to disaster, medications delivered after hours and many more examples of the dedication and caring of our CHR staff – your commitment to serving is admirable. If you have any questions about the CHR program please feel free to contact them at 918-623-1925 or toll free at 1-888-356-8494. We're always searching for new ways of serving our clients and patients.

DOCTOR'S NOTE

MRSA Infections

By Michael C. West
D.O., F.A.C.O.P.

In the past couple of months, the media has presented numerous reports about methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus or MRSA.

These reports have led to fear and even panic among many people including parents and school administrators. This fear is unwarranted.

Staphylococcus aureus (Staph.) has coexisted with humans for a very long time and is NOT a new bacteria as many in the media have led people to believe. As with most bacteria, there are different types of Staph. The most common type is methicillin-sensitive Staphylococcus aureus or MSSA.

The difference between MSSA and MRSA is that several antibiotics work against MSSA where only a couple of antibiotics work against MRSA. Another difference is that MRSA tends to cause worse infections.

As a whole, Staph. bacteria are the most common cause of skin



Zack Anderson

infections in the United States. It is estimated that 30 percent of the population carries Staph. on their skin and that now 1 percent carries MRSA.

While anyone can get an MRSA infection, it is still more common in certain groups of people including hospitalized patients, people in nursing homes, prisons, day care centers, and athletes. MRSA infections most often present as boils and are often mistaken for "spider bites."

If left untreated, these infections can spread rapidly and can spread to the blood or lungs and cause serious or life threatening infections.

To help prevent the serious illnesses, one should go see their physician if they develop a skin infection. With early and appropriate treatment, serious illness is very rare.

Practicing good hygiene is the best way to prevent the spread of MRSA to others. This includes frequent hand washing, not sharing personal care items (towels, razors, bar soap), and washing towels, bedding and clothing in hot water and bleach.

Please remember that while fear and panic is NOT warranted for MRSA, practicing good hygiene and seeing your physician if you develop a skin infection are important ways of limiting the dangers and spread of MRSA.

Additional information is available online at: www.cdc.gov.

HEALTHNOTES

Importance of Strength Training As We Age

By Dewayne Tiger

As we grow older it is very important that we continue to exercise. The aerobic and cardio-respiratory component of your exercise is extremely important because of the scientific proven longevity benefits.

The better shape you are in, the less likely you are to die "prematurely" from a heart attack, cancer, diabetes or any other cause.

The aging process has dramatic negative effects on our muscles and bones. A sedentary individual can have a 30 percent reduction in muscle strength and a 40 percent reduction in muscle mass from age 30 to 70.

As we grow older, we need to increase our strength training to help prevent the onset of age related disorders, such as osteoporosis.

Osteoporosis is a common condition afflicting 25 million Americans and causing each year an estimated 1.5 million fractures in bones in those 45 years of age and older. Most fractures or breaks occur because of a fall.

Many people take for granted the importance of strength training as they get older. Working out with weights not only helps a person maintain their muscle mass, but also helps to maintain bone mass.

Each year, we should increase our strength training while maintaining a good aerobic workout.

According to the Cooper Aerobics Center in Dallas, by the time a person reaches 60 years of age, your aerobic exercise should still constitute at least half of your routine while the proportion of strength work should increase.

The main reason being is that as an individual grows older our bone density declines naturally and may put us at risk for osteoporosis.

A person should incorporate a safe

weight bearing routine with their current aerobic workout and daily activities. This will enable you to strengthen your muscles and joints to help prevent a muscle pull or muscle strain, while also increasing your muscle and bone mass.

After a few months, you can gradually and safely increase your workload either by adding more weight or adding more repetitions to your workout. By this time you should begin to feel stronger and have better balance, thus decreasing your chances in having a fall.

The Cooper Institute recommends the following strength training balance:

- If you're 40 years old or younger, devote 80 percent of your workout time to aerobic training (walking, bike, or running) and 20 percent to strength training.

- If you're 41 to 50 years old, shift to 70 percent aerobic and 30 percent strength work.

- If you're 51 to 60 years of age, do 60 percent aerobic exercise and 40 percent strength training.

- After you pass 60, divide your workout time more evenly between the two strategies – while still giving an edge to aerobic exercise, which provides the most health benefits: 55 percent aerobic exercise and 45 percent strength work.

If you start planning to exercise wisely with a proper diet, you will be getting a head start on a healthier, stronger and longer life. Not only will your muscles and bones be stronger, you will be able to live a much easier independent life.

It is very "important" to talk to your physician or a certified exercise trainer to determine your current physical condition before starting any exercise program.

Sources: The Cooper Aerobics Center – October 2007, "Wellness Insider", Exercise Testing and Prescription "A Health Related Approach" 4th Edition.

Holiday Eating

By Christian Dixon, RD/LD

The holidays are filled with cheerful giving, the comfort of family and delicious food.

However, this joyous time of year can cause a tremendous source of stress for those concerned with managing their weight.

In fact, the average American gains one pound of weight between Thanksgiving and the New Year.

While an extra pound is definitely not the end of the world, over time it can lead to a rather plump and wiggly waist line (think gelatin)! Here are some tips for avoiding unnecessary holiday weight gain:

- Perhaps the holidays are not the best time to diet. Instead, set a reasonable goal and aim to maintain your current weight during the holidays.

- PLAN. Most of us know exactly which foods will be included on the holiday smorgasbord.

Decide ahead of time which foods you MUST have and which foods you could do without.

Then decide how much of the desired foods you will eat, so that when it is time to fill your plate, you will not need a forklift to carry it back to the table for you.

- Speaking of tables, sit down and eat at one!

Be sure to take the time to focus on the food you are enjoying and savor every bite. You will be less likely to overeat and therefore less likely to need a new belt.

- Never attend a holiday gathering with a ravenous stomach as your guest!

Have a healthy snack full of fiber

and protein beforehand, such as an apple with peanut butter. Maintaining a nourished state can help you to avoid overindulging.

- Enjoy a small portion of a variety of foods, as the first few bites of a food are the most satisfying. And remember, it is okay to leave a little food on your plate.

- Limit or avoid alcohol. An 8 ounce mixed drink usually contains at least 300 Calories! Besides, alcohol can impair your intentions of eating healthy.

- When presented with goodies as gifts, say thank you, have a few, and get them out of your view. Even mindlessly nibbling on treats here and there throughout the holidays can pack on unwanted pounds.

At work, avoid the rooms filled with extra holiday treats, and if faced with a surplus of food at home, give leftovers away, freeze them for later or (gasp!) throw them away.

- When asked to bring a food item for a holiday gathering, choose something that is nutritious and satisfying.

If you are specifically asked to bring something unhealthy, take it and leave the leftovers.

- Unless you want to look like Santa, do not forget to exercise! Exercising is not only capable of lifting your holiday spirits, but it can help you shed unwanted fat and maintain a healthy weight.

- And finally, use the holidays to focus on family and relationships, not food.

After all, a loved one can make you feel better for a lifetime, but gorging is only a quick fix.

Happy Holidays!

Stephanie Powell

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PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Senior Services Update

OKMULGEE — I have missed contributing something to the latest two issues of the Creek Nation newspaper. I feel I should provide an update on happenings with the senior services program.

The grass cutting trimming service that was started in June has come to an end with the expiration of the contract with Thunderbird youth academy located in Pryor, Ok.

This program was started as an experimental venture to try to address needs expressed by many of our senior citizens.

Some areas we were able to help were, Okmulgee twice, Dewar twice, Wetumka, okay Muskogee twice and Preston. These were the areas with the most requests while other areas had only a single request.

The cadets from Thunderbird Academy were of great assistance to us in the limited time they were allowed to help us. They were able to help us only on Saturday, as they are students attending school during the week. Nevertheless, the program is grateful for the help and assistance they provided. The cadets were well behaved, well supervised, and excellent workers. I was proud to have worked with them and made a good working relationship with the academy. I hope to work with them next year. Many

thanks, to the cadets, the supervisors, staff and administration.

I also wanted to continue the service during the week for our seniors. I contacted Tony Fish and Chubby Anderson of Muskogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program. This was suggested to me by Carmen Tecumseh some months before we began the service in June. The Reintegration Program provided some good workers and we were able to use their help for a couple of months. The workers were willing and able to volunteer to help any day of the week. Some even called my office to see if I had any work they could perform. It was good to see the employees of the Reintegration Program trying to assist clients who were trying to travel a different road. I hope to work with these individuals next year.

This new service was a trial and error venture. We learned a lot this first time around. I want to begin this service earlier next year perhaps in early spring when our grass begins growing. I hope to have more equipment, a renewed agreement with these same programs and a long bed pickup truck to carry at least six lawn mowers. I believe we have made a good beginning.

On October 24 and 25 us seniors departed Muskogee (Creek) Nation heading west on the way to Sky City, NM. We traveled all day and reached Albuquerque around dark Thursday night. After a good dinner, we all settled in for a good night's rest. Seven o'clock Friday morning we headed west again toward Sky City about a hour's ride from Albuquerque. We had a good breakfast at he

Sky City Restaurant, which is owned by the Acoma Pueblo Indian Tribe.

We then headed south of Highway 40 some 12 miles out in the desert to the famous Sky City. It is located atop a 300 foot mesa. We were taken up top by shuttles as private vehicles are not allowed up top. An Acoma and English speaking tour guide gave us a tour explaining everything about his people, religion, the city, holidays and culture. He mentioned several times that every day they pray for rain. I asked him how much yearly rain they get. He answered only about 12 inches. He was surprised when I told him we get that much rain in two days where we come from. Many vendors were there selling their wares and some of us spent some money.

After about two hours on top, we concluded our tour, came down and headed to the tribally owned supermarket. Some wanted to purchase pasole, red and green peppers and other things. We then returned to Albuquerque to try to watch the local tribes dancing at the All-Pueblo Cultural Center. We were told they dance only on the weekend. We then went to, what else, the center restaurant. We enjoyed an excellent meal and afterward some of us toured the center and others went elsewhere.

We began our journey back home early the next morning and stopped for breakfast at Clines Corners. We stopped again in Tucumcari, NM and shopped for Christmas gifts at an Indian store. We had lunch in Amarillo, TX and made it on in to Creek country around 9 p.m.

It was a short but enjoyable trip for the first outing of the new fiscal year.

Did you know

The Importance of having a Tribal Citizenship card if you are Muskogee Creek

By Thompson G. Gouge

Public Relations Representative

There are many instances that have occurred throughout the tribal Complex here at Creek Nation regarding Tribal Citizenship. Many people have been confused about knowing the difference between the Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) Card and a Creek Citizenship Card. The tribal citizenship card has come from a pink card to a nice color photo card with all the necessary information needed. Some believe all you need is a CDIB card for proof of citizenship but you must have a Muskogee (Creek) Citizenship Card to receive any benefits or assistance from the Tribe. It's been said that many people have been turned away due to the fact that they are not official members of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation. I had a visit with Janice Hanun, Manager of the Social Services of the Creek Nation and she said that

"The majority of programs of Social Services require that you be a member of the Creek Nation in order to qualify and even with our BIA programs were Federally

changed that you must be a member of a federally recognized tribe in order to qualify for the general assistance programs or the BIA burial programs. That is why it is real important for people to become members of the Tribe".

This is just one of view of why it is important of having a citizenship card.

Knowing the difference between Citizenship Card and Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (C.D.I.B.) CDIB Card

A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is certification by a BIA Agency Superintendent to reference that an individual has a specific quantum of Indian blood. The superintendent is the official in charge of the agency and the custodian of all official records, is authorized to sign, as issuing officer, certified copies of official books, records, papers and documents within his custody. This includes Certificates of Degree of Indian Blood.

The burden of proof is on the individual to establish her lineage from his/her own enrollment or from ancestors of maternal or paternal lineage or both. This card is not only for one tribe, but all federally recognized tribes. Since many of these people do not have access to the proper records or information, they must be provided guidelines and advice

on securing the necessary proof.

Citizenship Card

The criteria for Creek citizenship is that you must be Creek by blood and trace back to a direct ancestor listed on the 1906 Dawes Roll by issuance of birth and/or death certificates. Example: If your mother or father is legally enrolled as of 1981; all that would be required of you as an applicant is your original state certified birth certificate listing your Creek parent(s). However, if you are tracing back to a direct ancestor listed

will which lists the person as an heir.

CAUTION: Hospital, city and county birth certificates are NOT acceptable. Computer generated, abstracted or transcribed birth certificates are NOT acceptable. You will need to order the record directly from the State Vital Statistics Office and specifically request a

STATE CERTIFIED, FULL IMAGE OF THE ORIGINAL BIRTH RECORD.

Photocopies are NOT accepted. All originals will be returned after they are reviewed.

(3) Submit State Certified, full image of the original birth and/or death record(s) of your NON- ENROLLED ancestor(s) through whom you are tracing. (Ex: If your mother is Creek and not enrolled, we need her birth record to connect you to the first enrolled member.)

(4) ADOPTION: Citizenship Cards are issued only through the natural parents. The

cases of adoption, quantum of Indian blood must be proven through the BIOLOGICAL PARENTS only. A copy of the Petition for Adoption and the Final Decree of Adoption must accompany the application for enrollment, as well as the STATE CERTIFIED, FULL IMAGE OF THE BIRTH RECORD. All information will remain confidential.

(5) Please send the completed applications with the required documents to:

Muskogee (Creek) Nation
Attn: Citizenship Board
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Just know that the processing time may take up to six weeks if all instructions are not followed. It will be longer if we must return your application for any corrections.

The purpose of this story is to bring awareness to all people who are eligible for Creek Citizenship. All the information that was provided came from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Citizenship Office here at Creek Nation. If your tribal membership card still PINK you may need to replace it for a new card. For more information you can call (918) 756-8700 and ask for the Citizenship Office and they will be glad to assist you in any way.

HOUSINGSERVICES

With the cold weather yet to come and the rising fuel costs the Housing Division would like to offer some low-cost energy tips to help you keep your heating bills under control.

NO-COST FIXES

These tips are easy to perform, but still work well:

Turn down the thermostat. You can save about three percent on your heating bill for every degree that you set back your thermostat. Turn the thermostat down 10 degrees when you go to work, and also when you go to bed. This can total up to around 16 hours a day and you could save about 10-15 percent on your heating bill.

Use exhaust fans wisely. In just one hour, a bathroom or kitchen fan can expel a houseful of warm air. Turn them off as soon as they've done their job.

Turn down the water heater. Lowering the temperature of water in the water heater to 115-120 degrees is usually unnoticeable to the user but can save you a considerable amount since the water heater can be up to 15-25 percent of the heating bill.

Keep heating vents clear. Vents blocked by rugs and furniture prevent heated air from circulating efficiently. Check both intake and output vents.

Use curtains. Opening curtains and shades on south-facing windows during the day allows the sun to help warm a living space; closing all curtains at night helps slow the escape of that heat.

Keep the fireplace damper closed when not in use. It's great cozying up next to a crackling fire on a cold winter day, but what you might not realize is that your fireplace is one of the most inefficient heat sources you can possibly use. It literally sends your energy dollars right up the chimney along with volumes of warm air. High efficiency, and properly installed wood stoves, on the other hand, may save you some money if you have access to a low cost wood supply or cut your own.

LOW-COST FIXES

So you've tried the no-cost fixes but want more ways to save on your energy bill. With a few relatively cheap hardware items and a few hours work you save a few more bucks on that heating bill.

Plug those leaks! By plugging all those leaks that come from the small gaps surrounding windows, doors and other areas can save you up to 10 percent on that heating bill. The materials you will need to fix those leaks will pay for themselves within a year. Buy door sweeps to close spaces under exterior doors, and caulk or tacky rope caulk to block those drafty spots around window frames. Apply weatherstripping to moveable joints. Cold air often enters through electrical outlets on outer walls. Specially made outlet gaskets can reduce air leaks, are easily installed, and are only about a buck apiece.

Keep your furnace in shape. Keep your furnace operating more efficiently by changing the air filter every one to three months. Filters are easy to replace so check them regularly during the winter. Electrostatic filters are more expensive (about \$20) but are reusable and trap more dust, smoke and pollen particles. For allergy sufferers, this type of filter is an effective and affordable way of improving the air quality in your house during the winter.

Winterize windows. If you can't afford storm windows, put plastic film on those windows where a clear view isn't crucial, which will curb drafts and keep windows from rattling.

Wrap water heater and pipes. Unless you've got a newer water heater that already has built-in insulation, covering your water heater with an insulated "jacket" (\$17-\$20) will keep costs down, especially if your heater is in an unheated place like a garage. Also, wrap water pipes when possible, especially when they run through uninsulated areas.

Buy a low-flow shower head. A water-efficient shower head can use 25 percent to 50 percent less hot water, saving both on water and power bills.

Look for other insulation opportunities. Some well-placed insulation, especially in the attic of older homes, can really help.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muskogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muskogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muskogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

EDUCATION

Challenge Bowl – “For the Love of the Children”

by Virginia Thomas JOM Manager

OKMULGEE — If you happened to be by the First Baptist Church in downtown Okmulgee on the first three Thursdays in November, you would have seen hundreds of students arriving in cars, vans and school buses to compete in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl. The High School competition took place on the 1st, Middle School on the 8th and Elementary School on the 15th.

At the opening of each competition the students were honored to have our tribal leadership there to greet and encourage them to learn more about their Nation. Those tribal leaders and representatives attending the event were; Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Speaker George Tiger, Second Speaker Barnett, Executive Director Claude Sumner,

Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Representative Keeper Johnson and Representative Robert Jones. The students were thrilled to meet the people they have been studying, take pictures with them and have them sign their Challenge Bowl shirts.

The middle school competition was honored to have Valeria Littlecreek from the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Also in attendance were Bernard Garcia and Paulette Davis from the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Indian Education who assisted in the presentation of the awards after the final rounds.

This year we had an overwhelming number of teams to compete, with the most outstanding rounds of competition that we have ever witnessed. Teams were buzzing in before the moderator could even complete a sentence. The Challenge Bowl Committee has worked to develop a study guide for each division along with the language guides geared specifically for each division.

The Challenge Bowl was developed

to emphasize the importance of the spirit of the games. The intentions of the games are to provide a cultural foundation for the students to learn and demonstrate their knowledge of the Muscogee (Creek) heritage. The intention was never to have the children be against each other but to incorporate the spirit of the competition in a healthy environment of game play.



Pictured are Mike Flud, Louis Hicks, Jeri Brandon, Virginia Thomas, Paulette Davis, Bernard Garcia and Valeria Littlecreek

The Challenge Bowl is to promote the Muscogee heritage both modern and historical. The foundation of the games is to instill good citizenship and strong morals in the young people who participate. This is evident with the highest honor the students could achieve is the sportsmanship award which is the last award given and the largest trophy presented. We are proud to announce that this award will now be called the “Wilbur Gouge Honored Teams Award” to honor Wilbur ‘Chebon’ Gouge for his dedication and work in the formation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl. Chebon Gouge is one of the founding members of the Challenge Bowl Committee and has acted as the traditional advisor for the committee since the beginning.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation sets a standard of excellence unlike any other type of competition. We strive to keep the standard of information at the highest level using our culture, language and government as the guidepost to teach our

children. We believe that teaching these standards to our children will form the foundation for their future. In order to know where you are going you must first know where you come from.

I would like to thank all of the tribal leaders for taking part in the ceremonies and for all the volunteers from the community members and Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees. It is very evident that all those involved in the games do it “For The Love of the Children”. You set a standard of excellence by setting examples of being positive role models and by being good stewards of our youth of today who will become the leaders of tomorrow.

To all the school and community sponsors and teams, we here at Creek Nation are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. We have held the bar high and you have been able to reach it.

High School: 26 teams competing
1st place- Dewar Dragons
2nd Place- Eufaula (Eky Cvto)
3rd Place- Wilson (Este Henrake)Goodfellas

Winner of the High School “Wilbur Gouge Honored Team Award”- Eufaula Iron Heads

Middle School: 32 teams competing

1st Place- Dewar (Locv) Turtle
2nd Place- Hanna Dragons
3rd Place-Porter (Tolose Harjo)
Winner of the Middle School “Wilbur Gouge Honored Team Award”- Porter Tolose Harjos

Elementary School: 31 teams competing

1st Place-Dewar (Katcv Hvtke)
2nd Place- Glenpool Warriors
3rd Place- Sapulpa Little Mekko’s
Winner of the Elementary School “Wilbur Gouge Honored Team Award”- Wilson Thunder Helpers.



2007 National JOM Conference held in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

by Virginia Thomas JOM Manager

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. —The 2007 National JOM Conference was held in Niagara Falls, N.Y. on Oct. 14 – 17, 2007.

In attendance at the National Conference from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were Chief A.D. Ellis, Council representative Mike Berryhill and James Jennings. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal leadership met with several other tribal leaders to gather support for the federal funding of the Johnson-O’Malley programs nationwide. The honored Chiefs at the conference were Chief Earl Oldperson of the Blackfeet Nation, Chief Gregory Pyle of the Choctaw Nation and Chief A.D. Ellis of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their efforts in securing the JOM funding on a national level.

For the past few years President Bush has clearly undermined the Indian Education policy and the trust responsibility of the JOM program by zeroing out the program each year. Congress supports the JOM program and has continued to provide funding. In FY 06 Congress ap-

propriated 16.5 million, in FY 07 Congress again appropriated 16.5 which the Bureau ended up cutting it down to 12 million to fund education programs in the BIA. The cut was made without consultation and without prior warning. Tribes had no way

time to go on the “Hill” to advocate for the funding, the JOM programs did receive their funding for FY 07. The FY 08 funding is still under a continuing resolution in Congress with the final appropriation not determined to date.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s JOM program played a vital part in the NJOMA Conference. The Manager of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM program, Virginia Thomas was re-elected as the National President of the Association, serving her ten years as Board President. Others from Muscogee (Creek) Nation also elected to the Board are Jeri Brandon, Board Treasurer and Gwen Parish Region 3 representative.

President John of the Seneca Nation honored Chief Ellis with a Seneca Turtle Pendleton blanket and in return Chief Ellis honored President John with traditional ball sticks and invited him to Muscogee (Creek) Nation next November for the 2008 NJOMA Conference to be held in Tulsa.

We here at Muscogee (Creek) Nation are truly blessed to have our tribal leader-



2007 National Johnson O’Malley Conference

to absorb such a massive, unplanned cut. All programs were forced to cut services, and some actually closed their doors. Once again for FY 08, President Bush has zeroed out the JOM programs on a national level and once again the NJOMA Board and tribal leadership were able to secure funding.

Through the efforts of the NJOMA Board and tribal leaders who took the



Jeri Brandon and son Barry W. Brandon

ship and National Council involved on a national level to make sure that Congress and the Bureau of Indian Affairs are held responsible for their trust responsibilities of the education of our children.

Barry W. Brandon was a keynote speaker for the NJOMA Conference. Mr. Brandon is an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and is the son of Noel and Jeri Brandon. Barry has served as the Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the Seneca Gaming Corporation (SGC) since August 2004. The SGC, wholly owned by the Seneca Nation of Indians, runs three casinos and two luxury hotels and employs over four thousand

people in western New York.

Prior to accepting his current position with the SGC, he was a partner at the Washington D.C. law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, where he practiced federal Indian law and policy. Brandon’s professional experience also includes: serving as the General Counsel and the Chief of Staff of the National Indian Gaming Commission in Washington, D.C.; working at the U.S. Department of the Interior as Deputy Director of the Secretary’s Office on Indian Water Rights; and serving as a Senior Trial Attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, Indian Resources Section.

Creek student Graduates from Cornell University

by Adam Hollier , Creek Student

NEW YORK — The first person to greet me at the airport in April 2003 was Danielle Terrance, the former Associate Director of Cornell University’s American Indian Program. I had spoken to her a few times prior to my arrival, but nothing could have prepared me for the place I was about to visit. Cornell was a beautiful school on a hill surrounded by mountains and gorges. But what I didn’t expect was the large number of minorities present.



Hollier

Diversity Hosting Weekend would be my introduction to Cornell. I stayed in Akwekon, the Native American Program House. When I arrived, I was shocked to see the beautiful purple and gray building designed after Iroquois long houses. The building was more than a beautiful. It was a strong statement that Native students and Native issues were and are still important at Cornell. The building was built to be a home, library, meeting place and link to the Native community. I did not know it at the time, but Akwekon was not the only native home on campus. The American Indian Program office and activity center was also a place where Native students could go for counseling, advice, support, information and a variety of other

needs. The support I was given on my first visit was just the beginning. Knowing that native students were important helped me choose Cornell and later take advantage of all of their available resources.

I lived in Akwekon for three years where I was able to visit the nearby Nations, learn about their cultures and bond with Cornell Natives from many Nations. While at Cornell, my family was able to visit frequently because Akwekon provides guest rooms for family members of Native students. Cornell understands that family is paramount for Native students.

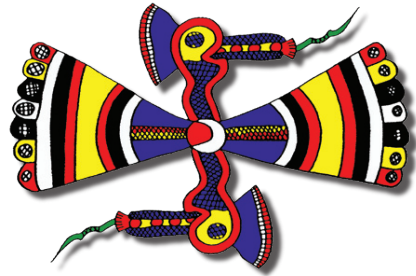
The American Indian Program does more than recruit; it actively works at retention. The students services staff were very helpful in

linking students with Native and non-Native faculty. The Faculty Fellow program allowed me to develop strong lasting bonds with Native faculty like Audra Simpson, who taught a course on American Indian Studies.

Though the faculty support was important, one of the best experiences Cornell offered was a safe place to interact with a nucleus of Native students. Cornell has two strong native student organizations: Native American Students at Cornell (NASAC) and American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). Here I met natives from Alaska, New York, Arizona, Virginia, Hawaii, Oklahoma, California, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, Nevada, Maryland and Iowa. It was an incredible experience to be sur-

rounded by Native students who had grown up on and off reservations. But the true benefit was we were all here together and could discuss our different journeys to this point.

Cornell’s strong Native community does more than support the native students; the American Indian Program also actively teaches the general Cornell community about Native life and is very active in promoting native issues in research and politics. Cornell was an excellent place to be a Native and Muscogee. It is my sincere hope that more students will choose Cornell for undergraduate as well as graduate study. More information can be obtained from Carol Kalafatic : clk23@cornell.edu or 607.255.4184.



FEATURES

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

CONTINUED FROM NOV.



This water reminds me of the taste of that water. With plastic water, the molecules are slowed; their response is definitely muted by enclosure in plastic, and maybe even by the process of bottling and selling.

Water is a living being that responds and reacts to stone, weather, the actions and even the thoughts of human. A Japanese researcher, Masaru Emoto has been studying the power of thought and feelings on water crystals. He has direct proof that what we think, speak and intend directly effects the world around us. His water crystal photographs prove that negativity produces a negative response, creates ugliness, whereas words and thoughts of beauty produce beauty. His studies show that the most powerful healing words are "love" and "gratitude". The crystal formations resulting from the expression of love and gratitude, or vn-vek-kv are quite stunning and beautiful.

We were sad to leave Candycy who made us feel welcome. We arrived to a cold and bright Fairbanks afternoon. We had sound check and played to another warm Alaskan audience. The University of Alaska is situated on a hill that used to be a meeting place for the indigenous people in that area. They'd come together there a few times a year, to share their stories, eat together, and dance. They would examine the past; they would evaluate and plan for the future. One far-seeing one predicted the university coming there, and how other natives from all over the world would come there and share.

From there I returned to New Mexico to team teach a graduate indigenous film class with Hawaiian filmmaker, Lurline McGregor. One of our Creek citizens: Jason Asenap is a member of the class. He's been busy the past few summers with the Disney native film workshops held in Santa Fe, N.M. Another citizen, Sterlin Harjo, will come to class next month to show his new feature film, Four Sheets to the Wind. I'll report on his visit in the next column.

And then I headed out the next morning for Tomales Bay, California to speak and perform at a writing conference. And then Friday arrived in Tulsa, was picked up by Anita Phillips to speak at a native Methodist retreat at Post Oak Lodge. This Sunday afternoon I head back to New Mexico.

I'm closing with a song I began my talk with yesterday. Rosemary McCombs Maxey and Ted Isham assisted in the translation. Mvto. This poem/song came as I stood in the Albuquerque airport a few years ago, watching sunrise. My daughter was then pregnant with her second daughter, an old man friend of mine was getting ready to leave this place. I thought of how each appearance of the sun makes a beautiful weave of story.

Morning Song
Hvt-hv-yvt-kē
e-kv-nv em-mv-he-ri-ces
v-ker-ric-kv e-to-kv-let.
Hvt-hv-yvt-kat te-lv-cet v-cum-kes.
He-ru-sat mvo e-to-ho-cet.
'Po-fvn-kv 'ra-fun' we-cah-lē sa-cum-kvt-os.
Ce-pen-kvh-le-kos
Ce-pen-kvh-le-kos
The red dawn now is rearranging the earth
Thought by thought
Beauty by beauty
Each sunrise a link on the ladder
Thought by thought
Beauty by beauty
The ladder the backbone of shimmering deity
Thought by thought
Beauty by beauty
Child stirring in the web of your mother
Don't be afraid
Old man turning to walk through the door
Don't be afraid
Do not be afraid.

Creek citizens protest centennial

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — In a unified show of support, Native Americans from across the State of Oklahoma, and the nation, gathered on the steps of the State Capitol in Oklahoma City on Friday, November 16, to voice their opinion of the Oklahoma Centennial celebration. The Oklahoma Indians Survival Walk and Remembrance Ceremony began at 9 am on Friday, November 16.

This date marks the 100th year of existence of Oklahoma statehood, celebrations throughout the past year have occurred, including a celebration later that evening at the Ford Center in downtown Oklahoma City.

The celebration holds mixed for feelings for American Indians nationwide though, especially those living in the Sooner State. Originally designated as "Indian Territory" by the federal government for "as long as the rivers run and the grass grows" the territory that came to be known as the state of Oklahoma was opened up for land allotment and development by the Federal Government at the turn of the century.

What many citizens of Oklahoma consider a special date of honor, many Native Americans look at as a time of dishonor. "This activity will counter the Oklahoma Centennial Celebrations because we, as Oklahoma American Indians, do not want our people to forget what happened to our ancestors nor can we let others across the nation lose sight of the real history of Oklahoma Indians and Indian Territory," said Brenda Golden who helped organize the Survival walk and Remembrance ceremony.

The activities included a walk to the Oklahoma State Capitol from Northeast 16th and Lincoln Boulevard. The walk was to the beat of a solitary drum symbolizing the forced removals that ancestors of many American Indian tribes endured during a forced march from their homelands to reach Indian Territory. Golden said,

"Our front banner spanning 8 feet wide and 30 inches tall will read, "Why Celebrate 100 Years of Theft?" We will stop, pause, pray and sing in memory of those who have walked on before us once we have reached the South Capitol entrance way."

Following the Survival Walk activities scheduled at the South State Capitol Park included setting up a tipi, a program of drum groups, singers and dancers with featured speakers from various Indian Nations. Speakers included David Hill-Choctaw/Chickasaw, Jean Larue Miller- Potawatomi, Gladys Narcomey Numunuh-Comanche, Dwain Camp-Ponca, Dave Narcomey- Seminole, JoKay Dowell-Quapaw/Cherokee, David Cornsilk-Cherokee, Laurie Gibson- Absentee Shawnee, Gary Colbert- Chickasaw,



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Native Americans from Oklahoma and the Nation took part in the Survival Walk and Remembrance Ceremony on Friday, November 16 at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City. The Ceremony was created in reaction to the Oklahoma Statehood Centennial celebration. Some of the participants include: (L to R, directly behind sign) Lettie Randall, Brenda Golden, Lourie Gibson, and Betty Barnett.

Gary White Deer- Choctaw, and Sandy Williams- Seminole.

During the course of the day, a "mock" wedding was held between Miss Oklahoma and Mr. Indian Territory. The ceremony was held in response to the original mock wedding held 100 years ago at the original state capitol in Guthrie, between Miss Indian Territory and Mr. Oklahoma Territory. According to reports, the lady that portrayed Miss Indian Territory 100 years, dawned a black wig and Indian dress, but was not of Native American heritage.

"Mock wedding indeed, with

a Miss Indian Territory and Mr. Oklahoma?" said Dr. Johnny Flynn, who is of Potawatomi heritage and one of the organizers of the days activities.

"Wonder how many 'Indian princess' stories that will spawn? Why not reenact the murder of hundreds of Land Run participants by the Sooners who jumped the line and cheated on the cheaters? And while they are at it, reenact the Oklahoma history of the theft of billions of barrels of oil by greedy oil barons whose families still enjoy the benefits of that theft."

Washington Elementary opens time capsule

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

SAPULPA — On Wednesday Nov. 14 at 10:01 a.m., the Washington Elementary School held a special Time Capsule Opening Ceremony.

The first Washington School was built in 1903. The school burned and a new school was built in 1937. When construction of the building began in 1936, artifacts sealed in a copper box were buried in the cornerstone.

The removal of the capsule took place in front of the school. Then participants moved to the gymnasium for the program. The program included recognition of guests, performance by students, presentation by Sapulpa Historical Society, opening of box (projected on screen for audience) and the display of artifacts.

The contents of the capsule included the following: copies of Sapulpa's newspapers,- The Sapulpa Herald, Democrat News, and Free Press; By-laws and Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, in the Creek language; Early history of Sapulpa, compiled by Sapulpa Jr. College, Catalogue of Sapulpa Junior College; Pocket piece of Royal Arch Mason Lodge # 49 of Sapulpa; Masonic Square and Compass formerly removed from old corner stone; old coins removed from corner stone and present day coins including mills; year book Nancy Green Chapter of National Society Daughters of American Revolution; copy of Tulsa Daily World; Senior Program for 1936; old papers that were removed from the old Corner Stone; copies of talks made by officials; and the Holy Bible.



CASA in need of volunteers

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — Since 1987 there has been a program in place throughout the United States that helps children who have been abused or neglected find a safe and permanent home. This program also exists within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and it is called, Court Appointed Special Advocates, (CASA).

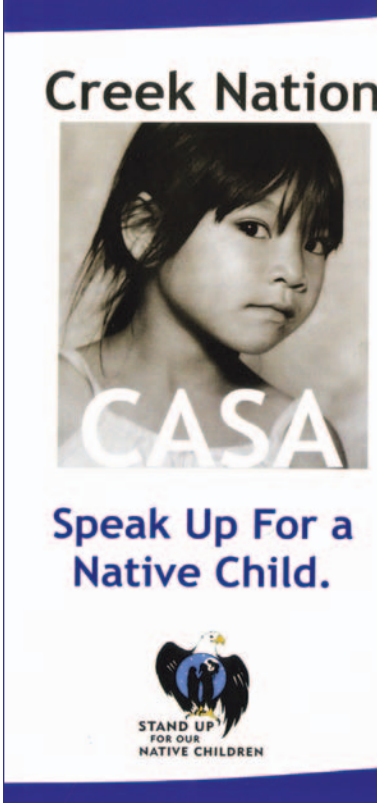
Currently CASA is in need of more volunteers to help the children in need. In this program, a volunteer would be assigned to a case, receive 30 hours of training on child abuse, neglect, domestic violence and drugs, then be on their way to making sure a child gets treated properly.

In 2005, the Department of Human Services confirmed 13 thousand cases of abuse and neglect across the state of Oklahoma. Of these, 2,282 cases were made up of Native American children.

Tribal Court CASA programs have developed innovative policies and procedures including tribal resolutions allowing tribal employees time off work to perform CASA duties, obtaining credit at tribal colleges for CASA volunteers, incorporating tribal custom and tradition and involvement of tribal elders within their communities.

Tribal Court CASA programs provide an opportunity for individual community members to demonstrate that they truly believe their children are the Native community's most precious resource.

Currently there are over 60 volunteers within the counties that serve the



Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Even though this number would seem to be sufficient, there are still many more children who are not getting the care that they need.

There are abused and neglected children in our community who need your help. The CASA program with the Creek Nation is only a phone call away. Become an advocate or make a contribution.

Contact Creek Nation CASA by phone at - 918-756-2549 or by email at - casaokm5@sbcglobal.net

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Taking a stand on Indian land



RELIGION B3

Life in three words



LIFESTYLES B4

Iliana Mikaelyn Dunson



SPOTLIGHT B5

Native "Starr" is shining bright



SPORTS B7

Shootout, 4 Love of the Game Holiday Tournament



SPORTS B7

Playmaker of the month



HISTORY/CULTURE

The Plea of Crazy Snake (Chitto Harjo) part III

I went in as Union Soldier.

When I took the oath, I raised my hand and called God to witness that I was ready to die in the cause that was right and to help my father defend his treaties. All this time the fire was going on and the war and the battles were going on, and today I have conquered all and regained these treaties that I have with government.

I believe that everything wholly and fully came back to me on account of the position I took in that war. I think that. I thought then and I think today that is the way to do – to stand up and be a man that keeps his word all the time and under all circumstances. That is what I did and I know that in doing so I regained again all my old treaties for the father at Washington conquered in that war and he promised me that if I was faithful to my treaties, I should have them all back again. I was faithful to my treaties and I got them all back again and today I live under them and with them. I never agreed to the allotting of my lands. I knew it would never do for my people and I never could say “a b c” so far as that is concerned. I never knew anything about English. I can’t speak the tongue I can’t read it. I can’t write it. I and my people, great masses of them, are unenlightened and uneducated. I am notifying you of these things because your Government officials have told me and my people that they would take care of my relations with the Government and I think they ought to be taking care of them as they promised. He said that if anyone trespassed on my rights or questioned them to let them know and he would take care of them and protect them. I have always thought that this would be done. I don’t know what the trouble is now. I don’t know anything about it. I think my lands are all cut up. I have never asked that be done but I understand it has been done. I don’t know why it was done. My treaty said that it never would be done unless I wanted it done. That anything I did not wasn’t to be done contrary to that treaty would not be done. I never made these requests. I went through death for this cause and I now hold the release this Government gave me. I served the father faithfully and as a reward, I regained my country back again and I and my children will remain on it and live upon it as we did in the old time. I believe it. I know it is right. I know it is justice.

“I hear the Government is cutting up my land and is giving it away to black people. I want to know if this is so. It can’t be so for it is not in the treaty. I want to know if this is so. It can’t be so for it is not in the treaty. These black people, who are they? They are Negroes who came in here as slaves. They have no right to this land. It was never given to them. It was given to me and my people and we paid for it with our land back in Alabama. The black people have no right to it. Than can it be that the Government is giving it – my land – to the negro? I hear it is and they are selling it. This can’t be so. It wouldn’t be justice. I am informed and believe it to be true that some citizens of the United States have title to land that was given to my fathers and my people by the Government. If it was given to me, what right had the United States to take it from me without first asking my consent? That I would like to know. There are many things that I don’t know and can’t understand but I want to understand them if I can> I believe the officers of the United States ought to care of the rights of me and my people first and then afterwards look out for their own interests. I have reason to believe and I do believe that they are more concerned in their own welfare than the welfare of rights of the Indian – lots of them are. I believe some of them are honest men, but not many. A man ought first to dispossess himself of all thought or wish to do me or my country wrong. He should never think of doing wrong to this country of to the right of my people. After he has done that, then maybe he can do something for himself in that regard: but first he must protect the Indians and their

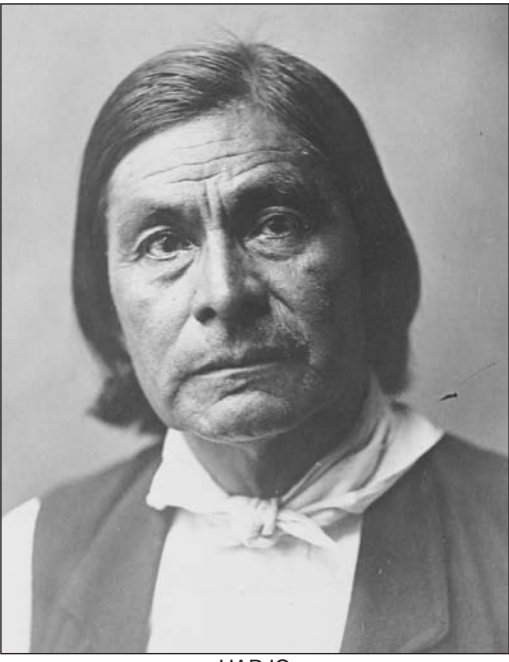
the representatives of the Government sent here to look into these things and I hope you will relieve us. That is all I desire to say”

In response to an interrogatory by the Chairman of the Committee, the old Indian responded, “Oh yes, I am a farmer. I have a farm and a home there on it. I used to have horses and hogs and cattle but I have precious few left now. The white people have run all through me and over and around me and committed all kinds of depredations and what I have left id precious few. I am here and stand before you today, my fathers, as a man if misery. I am here appealing to you to have the laws carried out.”

Senator Teller of the Committee enquired of Mr. Hodge, the interpreter, “Do you believe that the old man is honest in his statement?” Mr. Hodge very readily and with emphasis answered, “Yes sir, he is as honest and straight forward and sincere in his statements and a living man can be”

After concluding his address, Harjo bowed low to the committee and retired from the hall with his followers. A year later, Statehood came with its complement of new, untried State, District and County officials and the Indian had a new set of masters. Early in the summer of 1908, whisperings of another full blood Indian uprising began to drift in from the old Hickory neighborhood which seemed to indicate that the personal prowess of the new officials was going to be put to a test. Rumor had it that old Chitto Harjo had resumed the war path although the old Indian knew nothing about it until he learned that State Militia was seeking for him. The worst that could be said of Harjo was, that he had talked to much but he committed no overt act against the state in 1908. The old man disappeared rather than face a prejudiced public opinion in the new courts of the State. Timid settlers whose fears were aroused by the reports, appealed to the new sheriff of McIntosh County, to investigate and restore the majesty of the law, but the sheriff was too frightened even to investigate and called upon the new Governor for military aid in quelling the insurrection, which was purely and imaginary one. The State Militia boldly marched into McIntosh County and martial law was declared in the Hickory country and the search for old Crazy Snake began. They never did find the old, decrepit Indian but they did find a few peaceful full blood Creek Indians living quietly in their log cabins with no thought or purpose of fomenting any trouble. There was no Indian uprising nor insurrection by the Snake Indians in 1908 and no occasion for the spectacular display of the military arm of the State at that time. It does not seem, however, that discovery was made that a pack of dogs unwarrantably had chased a rabbit into the smoke house of a white settler and in digging the rabbit out, the dogs had caused the smoke house to collapse and that affair was laid to the door of Crazy Snake and his folks. From this incident the smoked meat rebellion took its place in the early history of the State of Oklahoma and the State Militia marched down the hill again.

Little remains to be said of Chitto Harjo, the innocent cause of this statewide panic. In Indian fashion, he just faded away not as a fugitive from justice but because he was becoming too circumscribed by the white man and his individualistic practices. The old Indian just wouldn’t civilize and so report has it that he died down in the Choctaw county about 1913 – “a red man still”



HARJO

Reed Elementary Holdenville

by Gracine Hicks

HOLDENVILLE — This month we are learning the tame animals, table settings, and the weather terms. The students love learning the Mvskoke words for their pets.

We learned the table settings which seem very appropriate at this time, be-

Pe-re-hem Tv-lo-fvn
“Silent Night”
Pe-re-hem Tv-lo-fvn
O-mvl-kv Fek-hon-ne
O-mvl-kv Hv-ya-ya-kes
Es-tu-cet Hv-svt-ke-tv
Hvl-we No-cet O-mes
Hvl-we No-cet O-mes
Pe-re-hem Tv-lo-fvn
Pu-ca-se Hec-ke-pen
He-sa-ye-cvn V-rak-kue-cvks
A-le-lu-yv Me-kot Os
Klist Pu-ca-set Hec-kes
Klist Pu-ca-set Hec-kes

O’v-tes A-kv-sv-mv
“O’ Come All Ye Faithful”

1. O’V-tes, A-kv-sv-mv A-fvc-ket, Ok-fvn ket
O’A-tes, O’A-tes Beth-le-hem
V-tet Ok-he-cvs An-cel Me-kot Hec-kes
2. Yv-he-kvs, An-cel-vl-ke, V-fvc-ket Ya-he-kvs
Yv-he-kv Hvl-we Tv-lo-fvn
He-sv-ke-tv-me-set V-rak-que-ces.

cause of Thanksgiving. All the classes learned how to say Thanksgiving in the Mvskoke language. Around the classroom you could hear students saying pass me the penwv, homuce, and ok-cvnwv. One of the students said when his family sits down to Thanksgiving

Chorus:
O’A-tet, A-kv-sv-mvks, O’A-tet A-kv-sv-mvks
O’A-tet, A-kv-sv-mvks Pu-ca-se Klist.
En-cvl-vl-ket Yv-hi-kvks
“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”
En-cvl-vl-ket yv-hi-kvks,
Angels sing,
He-sa-ye-cvn v-rak-kue-cvks.
Glorify the Savior.
E-kvn her-kv cem-v-laks,
Peace on earth has come.
Ce-ho-fvn a-kv-sv-mvks.
Praise Jehovah
E-kvn o-mvl v-rak-kue-cvks,
Let all earth glorify,
En-cvl-vl-ket en-yv-hi-kvks.
Sing to the angels.
Pe-re-hem tv-lo-fv hec-kes,
He is born in Bethlehem
Pu-he-sa-ye-cv v-kv-sv-mvks.
Praise our Savior.

dinner, he is going to say “Please pass me the Penwv”, just to see the expression on everyone’s face. He said then I will say it is turkey in the Creek language.

We will end up the month with our Mvskoke weather terms.

CHRISTMAS WORDS

- NETTV CAKO RAKKO
CHRISTMAS
- SENEHICKV
ORNAMENT
- HERKV
PEACE
- HIYAYVKE
LIGHT
- ESTE HONONWVHOPORENE
WISEMEN
- KOCOCUMPV /VKOLASWV
STAR
- TOHELLEKO/ETOELEKO
MISTLETOE
- NAKE ESTEMKV
GIFT

Taking a stand on Indian land



Corky Allen

TENNESSEE — Recently Corky Allen inquired about having a section the Muscogee Nation News regarding some important land information. He will be writing an article each month to inform the readers of what is going on where he is. This month Corky submitted an article to lay some ground work on what he will educate the readers on in the future. Following is the article that was submitted.

What can you do when you “discover” a continent, but there are already people living there? Europeans arriving in North America tried

a number of approaches to solve what was often referred to as “the Indian Problem,” depending on the relative military power of the natives and non-natives. By the late 1870s, most tribes had been pushed onto reservations in areas that were generally undesirable and out of the path of settlement, but many friends of Native Americans became convinced that efforts to isolate and then civilize them were not working and that assimilating them into the general population would be a better policy.1

It became almost an article of faith with the reformers that private ownership of property was one of the most powerful tools that could be used to bring about assimilation. They therefore set out to destroy the tribal governments and their system of communal ownership and give each Indian his or her own piece of land. Get-

ting the federal government to adopt a policy of allotment of land in severalty was almost an “obsession of the later nineteenth-century Christian reformers.”2 They were convinced that such a policy would force the Indians to become more like the industrious white farmers who were rolling over them like a tidal wave. Powerful economic interests supported the policy because it would open surplus land to non-Indians. Congress gave in to a persistent lobbying effort driven by both good intentions and basic greed and passed a General Allotment Act that was signed into law on February 8, 1887.

Due to the fact that this article is so lengthy, and the Muscogee Nation News is limited on space, readers can view this entire article by visiting: <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1997/spring/dawes-commission-1.html>

Who owns the past?

Article Submitted

If asked to enumerate their human rights, I doubt that most Americans would mention the right to control their dead. This is not because there is no such right; rather, the entitlement is so basic and universally extended that it is hardly recognized as a “right” by most people. But suppose America were occupied by a foreign invader whose scientists pillaged our cemeteries and shipped our ancestors’ remains home for research. I have little doubt that most Americans would regard this as a fundamental violation of human rights and dignity.

The United States, of course, allowed this to happen to its indigenous people. Although our government acknowledged almost every other group’s spiritual and legal claim to their dead, for much of American history it did not extend this basic human entitlement to Native Americans. Huge quantities of their ancestral remains and sacred objects were shipped to research institutions such as UC Berkeley’s Hearst Museum, which houses the second largest such collection in the nation. In 1990, Congress tried to redress the injustice by passing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), which requires museums to repatriate human remains and sacred objects to tribes.

The law has had mixed success. Congress essentially left the details of NAGPRA administration to the institutions that controlled the collections, and although many museums have been conscientious, many have not. Unfortunately, NAGPRA fails to take sufficient account of the inherent conflict between museums’ institutional and research interests and their obligations under the law. Museums quite naturally want to keep their collections intact. This is especially true of museums run by scientists who conduct research on human remains, often in violation of Native American religious beliefs. The social utility of this research, by the way, is largely intellectual. Although academic archaeology is a worthy and respected subject, it won’t do much to cure disease, prevent global warming or solve other problems of vital consequence for human life. In this sense, it is a luxury endeavor with a limited audience, and ought not to take precedence over human rights.

Many Native Americans believe that some scientists, particularly at the Hearst

and other UC museums, are extremely hostile to NAGPRA and deliberately frustrate tribal claims. One way scientists have done this is to exploit basic NAGPRA classifications. The law required that museums file inventories of their Native American collections by 1995, identifying items as either “culturally affiliated” or “culturally unidentifiable.” Museums had to repatriate remains and artifacts to affiliated tribes, but for the indefinite future, they were allowed to keep culturally unidentifiable items. It is not surprising that some museums classified large portions of their collections as culturally unidentifiable.

For example, the Hearst Museum, which did not complete its inventory until 2000, classified more than 80 percent of its collection as culturally unidentifiable. Tribes can challenge this classification, but only on a “case by case” basis. Tribes essentially have to do all of the research and then place their evidence before “repatriation committees.” In the UC system, they first have to convince a campus committee and then a system wide committee. These committees are dominated by scientists. For instance, the University of California Office of the President committee is composed of five archaeologists, one attorney and two Native Americans.

Within this context, a recent decision by Berkeley scientists and administrators is very troubling. The UC Berkeley vice chancellor of research, herself a scientist, commissioned a review of Hearst NAGPRA services by two archaeologists, both of whom sit on the UCOP committee. The vice chancellor excluded Native Americans. The archaeologists recommended eliminating the NAGPRA unit, which included three Native Americans who worked independently of museum scientists. This unit offered comprehensive research and consultation that helped tribes overcome a stacked process. The university has now removed all Native Americans from positions of authority over NAGPRA and has essentially subordinated NAGPRA interests to the goals of research scientists. It appears that once again, a basic human right of Native Americans has been trumped by a luxury science. It is time for the UC Regents to intervene.

Corbin Collins is a Bay Area writer and communications director for the Native American NAGPRA Coalition.

RELIGION

Oklahoma Indian Evangelism Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Indian Evangelism Conference will be held March 6-8 at Glorieta Baptist Church. The church is located at 7308 S. Western, Oklahoma City.

Native Americans are one of the least evangelized groups in North American. It is good that we have churches called to reach Native people. However, the reality is that a few faithful people attend these churches

while the vast majority of native people do not attend. At the Oklahoma Indian Evangelism Conference this year, you will learn how to facilitate a powerful movement of God in your community.

The theme for this year's conference is "Praying to the Lord of the Harvest". The keynote speaker will be Dr. John Avant. Dr. Avant was the Vice President of the Evangeliza-

tion Group of the North American Mission Board. He is currently the pastor of First Baptist Church, West Monroe, La. A veteran of 25 years as a local church pastor. A graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Theological Seminary, he was taught evangelism at Southwestern Seminary.

Other speakers include: Jimmy Anderson of Shawnee; Jay Mule of Ardmore; Jose Pacheco of BGCO and Andy Anquoe of Sperry.

This year, the Conference will present the first ever "Lifetime Achievement Award for Indian Evangelism." The award will be presented to Bro. Leslie Clark on March 6.

In addition to inspiring preaching, the conference will offer workshops to equip you in practical

evangelism skills. Some of the workshops to be offered include: How to be a praying church, Women reaching women, Reaching young adults, Reaching youth, Epoch: An Evangelism process, Transforming Worship, How to confront people with the Gospel and Decision Counseling guide.

A special conference rate has been arranged at the Quality Inn, 1-240 and S. Western. The rate is \$42 per night. Call the Quality Inn at (800) 843-4241 or (405) 632-6666.

If you want to attend, but cannot afford the Quality Inn, call (405) 632-3365. A limited number of people will have a room in their home for you.

If you are a pastor and cannot afford the Quality Inn, a limited number of scholarships are available. To qualify, others from your church should attend the conference.

If your religious organization desires to set up a display booth, contact us at (405) 632-3365. Space will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

Life in three words

by Bishop Robert E. Hayes Jr.
Bishop of South Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church

"Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!'..... Luke 28:35 (NRSV)

We live in a world of many voices. The voice you hear and respond to most often will largely determine how you live and the course your life will take. If the voice of greed and selfishness drowns out all others, then your life will be an endless pursuit of accumulating material possessions with regards to only one thing: me, myself, and I. Or, if you hear the voice that calls you into service for others, then your life will be driven to reach out to those who have no voice, and who depend upon committed servants who "lose their lives for the sake of others." In today's society, I invite you to observe the voices that people hear and follow, for at times it is truly frightening to see the places where our loyalties are most often given.

That's why it's so important that I remind you that there is still one voice that speaks to us in the midst of our wandering and our quest for living, and his name is Jesus! You can be sure that the voice of our Lord and Savior still speaks, and if we would only listen to him our lives would be more meaningful and whole.

Out of the Gospel of Luke comes this fascinating story of the Transfiguration. It was a divine moment in the life of Christ when his appearance was changed from the "likeness of men" (Philippians 2:7) to that of the glorified Son of God. The decent of a cloud symbolized the presence of God who spoke acknowledging Jesus as His chosen Son. And the words, "Listen to him" become for us the supreme wisdom of the ages. These three words represent the ultimate essence of life, for God is saying that listening to His Son, Jesus Christ, is the only way to redemption and our only hope for survival. It is life in three words!

Today, I invite you to experience life in all its fullness. I urge you to hear the voice of One whom death could not destroy and the grave could not hold. He still lives, and his influence is greater now than ever because he remains our hope, our salvation, and our all!

"I can hear my Saviour calling, I can hear my Savior calling, I can hear my Saviour calling, I'll go with him, with him, all the way!"

May God bless and keep you all.

Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Updates

New website

Check out our new web site at www.umc-oimc.org. We hope to keep it updated with pertinent information as well as links to other information across the church.

New Resource Received

The conference office received an HBO Documentary series on Addiction entitled Why Can't They Just Stop? Addiction, New Knowledge, New Treatments, New Hope. This is a 14-part series that includes a 90-minute documentary, over 5 hours of comprehensive material and additional interviews, as well as a 12-page program guide.

If your church is interested in participating in a substance abuse ministry, then this resource would

be helpful. If you would like to use it, contact the conference office at (405) 632-2006.

Campus Ministry

OIMC has the possibility of expanding its campus ministry units to several other college campuses sometime this fall or spring.

College campuses that are targeted for new ministries include Rogers State University at Claremore, Okla.; Southeastern State University at Durant, Okla.; OSU Tech at Okmulgee, Okla.; Oklahoma State University at Stillwater, Okla.; and East Central University at Ada, Okla.

During its recent meeting, the Campus Ministry Board allocated limited funding for those

who wished to explore campus ministry in OIMC. The training at Fin and Feather offered ideas for campus ministry that are currently being used on the campuses of the University of Oklahoma, Eastern Oklahoma State University, Haskell Indian Nations at Lawrence, Kansas and Northeastern State University at Tahlequah, Okla. Several Oklahoma colleges and universities rank in the top ten regarding Native American student enrollment.

Local churches that have students attending any of these colleges and universities are asked to contact the OIMC office with their names and contact information.

For more information, contact Rev. David Wilson at the conference office (405) 632-2006.

FAITH-BASED ACTIVITIES

New Year's Eve Singing

HOLDENVILLE — Many Springs Baptist Church will be having a New Year's Eve singing beginning at 7 p.m. to midnight on Dec. 31.

Those singing will be :The Buck Family, The Chessers, Lakeside Singers, Gospelites, Drywater Family, Providence, The Cornerstones, Sound of Praise. Wahoo Buck and Curtis Keeney will be emceeing the singing.

Everyone is invited to come and listen to an evening of good gospel music.

Black-eyed peas and all the trimmings will be served at midnight.

The church is located five miles south of Holdenville on Hwy 48, turn left after crossing the Holdenville Lake Dam and go 1/2 mile.

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 Native American
 VETERANS
 Bradley J. Cooley & Bradley Owen Cooley
 (850) 997-4680
www.bronzebycooley.com

LIFESTYLES

BIRTHS

Taran Lynn Dunson

TULSA — On Aug. 3, at 4:15 p.m. Taran Lynn Dunson was born at OSU Medical Center in Tulsa.

She weighed 9lbs and 5.5 ounces and was 21.75 inches in length.

Her mother is Tara Kay Dunson and her older sister is Makayla Lynn of Okemah.

She was welcomed into this world by a host of family and friends.

Maternal grandparents are Mike and Randi Dunson of Okemah, and Donna Dunson of Tulsa.

Maternal great grandparents are Liz Yahola and the late James Earl “Sonny” Dunson of Okemah and Alice Micco of Dustin.



BIRTHDAYS

Kareffren Dwight Bagby, Jr. and Kaedyn William Bagby

OKMULGEE - Kareffren Dwight Bagby, Jr., celebrated his 3rd birthday with Kaedyn William Bagby celebrated his 1st birthday together on Nov. 23 at the home of their grandfather William Cook.

A second party was held at Incredible Pizza with a “Horse” theme.

In attendance was a host of family and friends.

They are the sons of Krystal Cook of Okmulgee and Kareffren Bagby, Sr. of Preston.

Maternal grandparents are William Cook and Peggy Martin of Okmulgee, and Norma Taryole.

Maternal great grandparents are Newman and Lydia Taryole of Bristow and the late George and Ella Cook.

Paternal grandparents are Floyd and Beverly Brown of Okmulgee and Roderick and Elizabeth “Liz” Bagby of Preston.

Paternal great grandparents are Velma Bagby and the late Elder Ralph Bagby of Preston.



Anashja Nikole - Lee Barker

OKMULGEE – Anashja Nikole – Lee Baker turned one year old on Nov. 20.

She celebrated her birthday at Mazzios with a Little Mermaid theme.

She is the daughter of Delilah Harjo of Okmulgee.

Her maternal grandparents are Betty A. Harjo and Stanley Lee Harjo of Okmulgee.

Her paternal grandparents are the late Lucille and Lee Roy Joshua Sr. and John Beaver.

Her paternal great grandparents are the late Betty Butler Scott and Albert Harjo Sr.

She is of the Wind Clan.

She is Muscogee Creek and Choctaw.



Chenoa Brooke Barnett

OKMULGEE — Chenoa Brooke Barnett turned three years old on Oct. 23, 2007.

She celebrated her birthday on October 28, 2007 with a Happy Feet party theme with sister, April and brother Eco plus a host of family.

She is the daughter of Stephanie Good Voice of Okmulgee and Roger Barnett of Bristow.

Her maternal grandparents are Sally (Jones) Good Voice and the late Kenneth Good Voice of Okmulgee.

Her paternal grandparents are Rachel Barnett and the late Joseph Barnett of Bristow.

She is Muscogee Creek/Rosebud Sioux descent and is of the Raccoon clan.



Iliana Mikaelyn Dunson

GLENPOOL — Iliana Mikaelyn Dunson celebrated her first birthday on Nov. 5 in Okemah with two parties, her themes were pink and purple #1 and Baby Einstein.

She celebrated with a host of family and friends.

She is the daughter of Mallory Bible and Michael Dunson Jr. of Glenpool.

Maternal grandparents are Ruth Bible of Okemah and Barney Ingram of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Mike and Randi Dunson of Okemah and Donna Dunson of Tulsa.

Maternal great grandparents are Billie (Sulphur) Scott and the late John Ellis “Sundala” Scott of Okemah.

Paternal great grandparents are Liz Yahloa and the late James Earl “Sunny” Dunson of Okemah and Alice Micco of Dustin.

She is the future member of Spring Field Church in Okemah.

She is of the Beaver Clan and is of the New Tulsa Ceremonial Ground.



Josephine Marie Felix

HENRYETTA – Josephine “Josie” Marie Felix celebrated her 2nd birthday on Oct. 20, held at Nanna and Papa’s house, with a host of friends and family. They enjoyed pizza and games.

She is a Creek citizen and she is of the Deer Clan. Her tribal town is Thlopthlocco.

Her parents are Erika Harjo and Jessie Felix.

Her maternal grandparents are the late Victor Harjo, Rachael Sumka and Jerry Sumka of Henryetta.

Her paternal grandparents are Sue and Rick Bishop of Castle, OK and Ron Felix of Sapulpa.



Maddie Sue Gouge

HENRYETTA — Maddie Sue Gouge celebrated her ninth birthday on Dec. 3.

She is the daughter of Thompson Geebon Gouge Jr. and Jenna Gouge.

Her maternal grandparents are Johnny Boyce of Tulsa and Karen Robertson of Beggs.

Great grandparents are Sylvia and Care Lee of Beggs.

Her paternal grandparents are the late Lutie Sue Gouge and the late Tom Gouge of Anadarko.



Malakai Wayne Harjo

MORRIS — Malakai Wayne Harjo turned two on Dec. 2. He celebrated with a “Cars” theme party at home with family and friends.

He is the son of Brandee Beaver and Dustin “Chudd” Harjo of Morris.

His maternal grandparents are Charlene Beaver of Okmulgee and David Deere of Okmulgee .

His paternal grandparents are Angela Berryhill of Morris and Chris Harjo of Okmulgee .

He is the great grandson of Wanda Buckley of Okemah and the late Sam Beaver, Christine Berryhill of Morris and Lindel Berryhill of Bristow, and Nancy Deere of Okmulgee and the late Judson Deere.



Ashton Kagan Taylor

HENRYETTA — Ashton Kagan Taylor celebrated his 14th birthday on Nov. 22, with his family.

He is the son of J.R. and Melinda Taylor of Henryetta and Kerstin Givens-Winn of Weleetka.

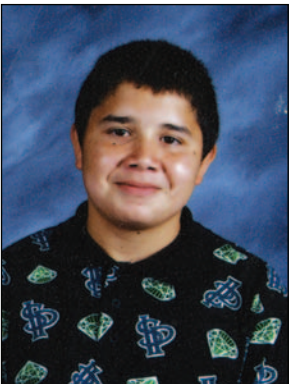
Paternal grandparents are Sally Taylor of Okmulgee and the late Walter Taylor, Sr.

Paternal great grandparents are Edna Mitchell of Henryetta and

Siblings include three sisters and one brother.

He is active in football, basketball, and a member of the Creek Nation Lighthorse explorers. He is also on the Superintendents honor roll.

He is an active member of the Churches youth group.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Creek football player gets selected as MVP

BRISTOW — Kyle Barnett, a Bristow Middle School sixth grader, was selected as the Football Star Conference Most Valuable Player 2007.

He was chosen by the conference little league coaches.

He is the first Bristow player to ever win this award. The team was the first runner up in the league this year.

He is the son of Tyrone and Angela Barnett.

Maternal grandparents are Rick and Amy Pinson of Bristow.

Paternal grandparents are Edward Barnett of Henryetta and the late Thelma Barnett of Bristow.

Maternal great-grandparents are the late Elmer and Malee Pinson.

Paternal great grandparents is the late Thomas and Winey Taryole of Okemah.

Siblings include brother, Tyler Chase, sisters, Cambry Jane and Allie Malee Barnett all of the home.



The descendants of Rufus and Gussie Buckley gathering

WETUMKA — On Nov. 3, 2007 the descendants of Rufus and Gussie Buckley gathered at the Kialegee Family Life Center in Wetumka and to honor their Aunt Betty Hill of Okmulgee. There was approximately 50 to 60 family members from surrounding areas to enjoy the special occasion. A special visit was made by Hershel Buckley and family of Downey, California.

Family members wanted to come together during happy times and enjoy a day of activities. The day began with a pot luck dinner, door prize drawings, hand-made pillows given to family members, games for the youth and a lot of pictures taken of each family. Aunt Betty the last surviving member of Rufus and Gussie’s 11 children: Kozy, Geneva, Henry, Louis, Ledon, Wadie, Martha, Mary, Harvey and Yvonne - was presented gifts and a beautiful basket filled with special gifts from each family member. The day ended with Creek singing and words of encouragement.

The Buckley family are hoping to have another gathering next year with more family to attend.



Bruner’s celebrate 61st year of Thanksgiving

HOLDENVILLE — The grandchildren of the late Robertson and Louise Bruner celebrated their 61st Thanksgiving at the home of Bob and Abbie Larney of Holdenville.

The annual family Thanksgiving celebration started in 1946 at the old home place of Sunday and Bessie Bruner, of Lamar.

Robertson and Louise Bruner had five children-Sunday (son), Daughters: Lucinda, Lucy, Hattie, and Mamie. Bear whom is the only surviving daughter, of Calvin.

The children of Robertson and Louise made it an annual event to gather for Thanksgiving and now the grandchildren and great-grandchildren continue the special gathering.

There were 54 in attendance this year. Next year’s gathering will be at Rick Harjo’s home in Maud.

Out of town family members were Maggie Alexander of Lawrence, Kan., friend Erwin Eslanti and nephew P.J. Hopkins, both of Winterhaven, Calif., Cecil and Sharen Watson and children Nashoba and Tenetke, of Flagstaff, Ariz., Rick Harjo of Kaibeto, Ariz.



SPOTLIGHT

Creek community mourns loss

Allen Harjo passes from this life leaving friends and family honoring and remembering

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Monday, Nov. 26, 2007 Muscogee (Creek) Nation mourned the loss of ones of its leaders. Harjo, a loyal and humble man who helped change our history. Allen devoted his life to assisting the people of the Creek Nation. His work led to a landmark decision in the 1978 case of Harjo vs. Kleppe that allowed Indian tribes to elect their own government officials.

Allen was born on January 27, 1935 in Okemah, OK. He was raised near Okemah and he graduated from Bearden High School. Allen's father Roman and mother, Mandy, encouraged Allen to continue his education. After High School, Allen went on to college and graduated from the University of Tulsa with an accounting degree. While serving in the Air Force in Tripoli, Allen met his wife Carmela of Rome, Italy. They married in 1959 and raised their family in Tulsa.

Allen was employed with Amoco in Tulsa, OK for over 25 years before taking an early retirement in 1988. After retirement Allen served in several roles within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, including as Administrator for the tribe's Health system. Beginning in 1991, Allen served as the Tribal Administrator at Thlophlocco Tribal Town under Grace Bunner. In 2004, Allen was appointed by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and confirmed by the National Council to serve as Director of Tribal Affairs.

While working for Amoco, Allen spent nights and weekend traveling to tribal towns and churches. He visited with Mvskoke Etlvw, and learned about the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government and came to understand the challenges of the tribe. After years of encouragement from Mvskoke Etlvw, including several elders whom he respected and greatly admired, he was encouraged to run for Principal Chief. Though he fell short of the votes needed to win. He continued to serve the Mvskoke Etlvw as a volunteer and leader, despite having a full-time job and raising his family in Tulsa.

During the early 1970's, Allen had heard from the Mvskoke Etlvw that they were losing the sovereignty they desired and were lacking the growth and prosperity they expected. Allen learned about the Curtis Act of 1898,

and the Five Civilized Tribes act of 1906 and 1970, which were intended to sustain the role of tribal government. The Curtis act also recognized and granted authority to the chiefs of the tribes. The Chief of Muscogee (Creek) Nation at the time was Claude Cox, he had drafted a new constitution which effectively placed the sole embodiment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on the office of the Principal Chief. Harjo knew that this was not the intention of the Curtis Act. Harjo believed that placing too much authority in the office of the Principal Chief was limiting the ability of the Creek Nation to prosper. Several Creek citizens agreed with Harjo. So during the 1970's, with the Creek citizens demanding a reorganization of their government, Harjo led a campaign to challenge the interpretation of the Curtis Act. Harjo's mission was to restore the rights of the Mvskoke Etlvw to choose their leaders so that they would have a voice in their government. His work led to a landmark decision in that case of Harjo vs. Kleppe.

In the 1976 federal court case of Harjo vs. Kleppe, Civil Action 74-189, 420 F. Supp. 110 (D.D.C. 1976) lawsuit and was instrumental in the development of the 1979 Constitution, including explanation to traditional citizens in Mvskoke throughout the Nation a federal judge determined that the Five Tribes Act provided that the Five Civilized Tribes' governments "shall continue in full force and effect" and stated that the "Bureau of Indian Affairs designed to prevent any tribal resistance to the Department's methods of administering those Indian affairs delegated to it by Congress. This attitude...can only be characterized as bureaucratic imperialism."

The Harjo vs. Kleppe decision ensured that the so-called constitution created by then Creek Chief Claude Cox did not and could not replace the original Creek Constitution of 1867 and was therefore a nullity. The rights of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were restored in 1979 when the tribe and all disabilities imposed upon it by the Curtis Act of 1898 were superseded.

Harjo's work was important not only for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, but for all of the five civilized tribes of



MNN/archive photo

Allen loved to ride his motorcycle and could also be seen cruising around Creek country on his motorcycle. Pictured here Allen was preparing to ride with the 2005 Trail of Tears Remembrance Ride.

Oklahoma. As a legal precedent, Harjo vs. Kleppe is a framework which tribal governance must now comply. Following the decision, Harjo continued the long process of educating the Creek citizens about the rights that have been restored to them. The other four civilized tribes of Oklahoma as well as tribes nationwide used the decision as a basis. Harjo was called upon and had served as a guest speaker at several tribal functions both within and outside of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, his last seminar was at Cherokee Nation in September 2006. Harjo's latest stand for the citizens was in July 2007 when he filed a petition in Tribal Court for a Writ of Mandamus requesting the Court to order the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board to reapportion voting district seats.

The late author Angie Debo whom had strong beliefs and convictions, wrote about the history of Oklahoma, and of American Indians and the relations between them and the federal government. Debo's research projects were numerous, one of her books "Still

the Waters Run," which exposed the injustices suffered by the Five Civilized Tribes at the hands of the federal and state officials. This book and her "The Road to Disappearance: A History of the Creek Indians" served as a basis for a landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision, "Harjo vs. Kleppe," in which important land rights for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were recognized.

Allen spoke Creek, along with other languages including Italian and Spanish. He insisted on speaking Mvskoke in meetings where Mvskoke Etlvw speaking citizens were present. If Allen knew they were Mvskoke, he would speak to them in Mvskoke. If they didn't or couldn't respond back he would encourage them to learn their language. Later in life he thoroughly enjoyed speaking Mvskoke, he shared his sense of humor with so many other Creek citizens and friends. Allen enjoyed riding his motorcycle he participated in the annual "Trail of Tears" remembrance motorcycle ride from Tennessee, honoring our ancestors who walked that trail during

the 1832 Removal from our homelands. Until his death, he continued to respect the elder Creek citizens and those that supported him throughout his work, like Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

While Harjo's work took him away from family on numerous occasions, he valued family more than anything else. He and Carmela's three children, Jennifer, Jeffrey and Gregory graduated from college and are working as CPAs and Attorneys. Allen lost Carmela in 2003 to Leukemia. Allen joined the Catholic church in 1998. He is survived by his daughter Jennifer and husband Allen, sons Jeffrey and wife Shari, Gregory and wife Sara. His grandchildren Alexandra, Luke, William and Elizabeth brought Allen great joy and hope. Allen received prayer and tremendous support from his family.

Mr. Harjo, a humble man with a mission, whose vision and his life's work has made a mark in the Mvskoke and Native American history. His legacy will live in the generations to come. His "Este Cate" sense of humor will be greatly missed.

Native "Starr" is shining bright

Arigon Starr is traveling and performing in and out of the U.S.

Article Submitted

LOS ANGELES — Arigon Starr is an enrolled member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma. Her early years were spent traveling across the United States with her military family. Her parents, Ken and Ruth Wahpecome (Creek-Cherokee-Seneca) supported her artistic expressions, encouraging her to learn as much as possible about music, composition, art, and drama. Starr relocated to Los Angeles, where she worked behind the scenes at entertainment companies like Viacom Productions and Showtime Networks. In 1996, she left her corporate job behind and became a full-time musician.

Starr's first CD, Meet the Diva, was named Best Independent Recording at the Second Annual Native American Music Awards. Her second release, Wind-Up, was released in 2000. This CD contained the hit "Junior Frybread," which was named Song/Single of the Year at the Fourth Annual Native American Music Awards. In 2002, Wacky Productions released her third CD, Backflip, which contained a unique mix of rock, pop, punk, folk, and country music. Starr's friends, Grammy-nominated country act BR549, joined her on several tracks, including "Daddy's Records"—which made the first round of Grammy nominations for Best Country Song in 2003. Starr released her fourth CD, The Red Road – Original Cast Recording, featuring a Who's Who of musical guest stars from Los Angeles and Nashville. The project earned her another award for "Outstanding Musi-

cal Achievement" from First Americans in the Arts, a Native American Music Award for "Songwriter of the Year" and an Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Award nomination for "Best Country CD."

Starr's music has taken her around the world. She has toured the United Kingdom, including stops in London and the famous West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds, in addition to appearances at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, the Milwaukee Indian Summer Festival, the Gathering of Nations Powwow, and at venues like Sky City Casino in New Mexico, Viejas Casino in San Diego, the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, the Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, and the University of Washington, Seattle.

Starr has also gained fame as a talented actress. Native Voices at the Autry has featured her in several productions, including lead roles in the staged reading of Moose River Crossing and the West Coast premiere and Equity production of Drew Hayden Taylor's The BuzGem Blues. She played Mother Goodeye in the Wells Fargo Radio Theater production of N. Scott Momaday's The Indolent Boys. She also starred in the Equity productions and world premieres of Please Do Not Touch the Indians in March 2004 and Kino & Teresa at the Autry National Center in 2005. Starr recently made her network television debut on Showtime's hit comedy show, Barbershop: The Series and has appeared on ABC's daytime drama General Hospital. Starr's acting work has



MNN/Gerald Wofford

Pictured above is Arigon Starr. Arigon was seen performing her many talents at the Gilcrease Museum. Many fans were in attendance to enjoy what Arigon shared that evening.

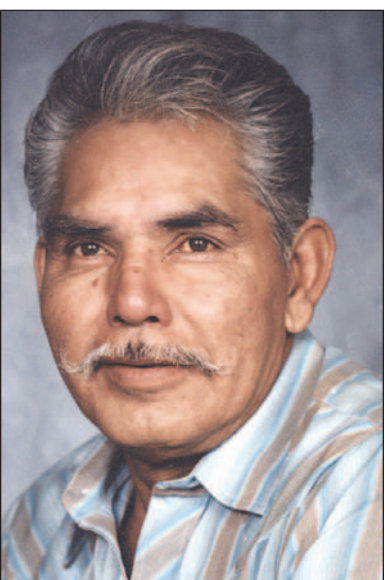
garnered two First Americans in the Arts Awards, the Maverick Award from the Los Angeles Women's Theater Project, and a Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers Award.

Arigon Starr's first play, The Red Road, a wild, wacky comedy with music, was produced by Native Voices at the Autry and premiered at the Autry

National Center on March 30, 2006. The play garnered rave reviews from the Los Angeles Times and Daily Variety. The Red Road continues to tour internationally. Native Voices at the Autry and the Native Radio Theater Project have also produced Starr's radio comedy series Super Indian, which will air nationally beginning in

November 2007. Starr continues to study acting at the prestigious Howard Fine Studio, improv with the Groundlings, and is represented by Kristene Wallis at the Wallis Agency. Starr is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, Actors Equity, and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

ALEX DEERINWATER



DEERINWATER

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Alex Sunday Deerinwater were held November 19, at the Rinity Baptist Church with Pastor Don Tiger officiating.

Alex was born on March 20, 1943 to Henry and Louise (Hicks) Deerinwater in Tahlequah.

On March 20, 1963 in Mesa, Ar. he married Patricia Barnes and to this union two children were born.

Alex worked for Dial Construction and for Bob Chadderdon as a carpenter and construction worker.

He was a member of the Prairie Springs Baptist Church.

He was also chairman of Bristow Indian Community for fourteen years and was on the Bristow Indian Community Business Board.

His hobbies included working with wood, playing bingo, going to casinos, and spending time with his family and watching his grandchildren play sports.

Alex was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers: George and John Deerinwater.

Survivors included his wife, Pat Deerinwater of Bristow; one son, Aaron Deerinwater and wife Nikkie of Bristow; one daughter, Eyahni Sanders of Mannford; three sisters: Susanna Bear of Okemah, Lavena Pearson of Bristow, Rosalie Fixico of Weleetka; one brother, Gary Deerinwater of Bristow; five grandchildren: Ashley, Adam, Tae Marie, Summer, and Jon; and two great grandchildren: Alexa and Noah.

Interment was at the Hicks-Deerinwater Cemetery.

JAMES DOYLE

OKEMAH — Funeral services for James K. Doyle were held December 1 at the High Springs Baptist Church with Reverend Jimmy Alexander and Reverend Frank Moppin officiating.

James was born on July 23, 1967 in Claremore.

He was raised by George and Nora Doyle in Tulsa and Coweta. He

graduated from Coweta High School in 1985.

James attended Rogers State College for three years where he majored in Criminology.

He trained in Green Bay, Wisconsin and was an avid kickboxer.

James was a member of Snake Creek Church in Bixby.

He married Bobbie Jean Powell in Bixby on March 20, 2004.

He worked as a security officer for Holiday Inn and police officer for the Lighthorsemen and the City of Beggs. James also served the City of Broken Arrow as a Reserve Officer.

James and Bobbie Jean recently moved to Holdenville to start a new chapter in their lives.

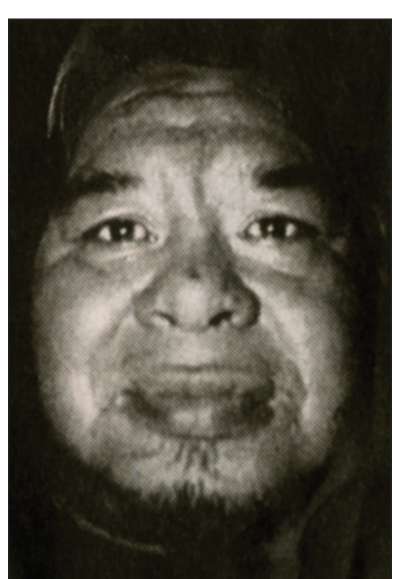
Survivors included his wife, Bobbie, of the home; his children: Steven Ray Doyle, and Matthew Wayne Doyle, both of Holdenville, Suzanne Renee Doyle of Cleveland; his parents, George and Pauline Doyle of Wewoka; his aunt, Audrey Doyle Griffin; brother, Michael McChristian; sister, Mary Sue Horner; also numerous relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were Chris Powell, O.C. Powell, Danny Wind, Richard Fixico, Stan Johnson, and Walter Factor.

Honorary Pallbearers included Charles Carey, Pastor Ray Samuel, Bill Alexander, Pastor Rex Shrum, and Keno Shrum.

Interment was at the Highland Cemetery.

JOHN FACTOR



FACTOR

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for John Ray Factor were held on November 29, at the Big Cussetah United Methodist Church with Reverend Andrew Harlin and Reverend Tommy Vann officiating.

John was born January 15, 1959 to Joseph and Betsy Factor.

His hobbies included playing board games.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers: Reuben and Richard; two sisters: Diane and Delilah; grandmothers: Cinda Hill and Lizzie Powell.

Survivors included his daughter, Carrie Swake; three grandchildren: Ariana, Brianna, and Carrie; six sisters: Pat, Bonnie, Doris, Linda, Gloria, and Sarah; five brothers: Luther, Joe, David, Dean, and Mose; also one aunt, Alice Freeman.

Pallbearers were Wotko Long, Cheba Tarpalechee, Edward Tarpalechee, Marvin Edmonds, T.J. Wolf, Rusty Lowe, Boney Morgan, Paul Jacobs, Pee-Wee Toney, and Jerry Swake.

Honorary pallbearers included John's nephews.

GARY GIVENS

NORMAN — Funeral services for Gary Gene Givens were held November 14 at the Kialegee Family Life Center with Reverend Sidney Lee and Reverend Robert Washington officiating.

Gary was born December 8, 1983 in Okemah to Jesse and Mary Givens.

He graduated from Wetumka High School in 2002 and attended East Central University.

He was an excellent musician and singer.

He played taps for the Creek Nation Honor Guard and sang at family gatherings and in church.

He had learned the words to many Creek Hymns and loved singing them.

Gary was a member of the Alabama/Quarsity Indian Baptist Church of Wetumka and the Kialegee Tribal Town.

He loved attending church, participating in tribal activities, and hanging out with friends.

Survivors included his parents; a sister, Agnes Givens of Wetumka; brother, Jesse Givens, Jr. of Arkansas; one great-aunt, Suzie Martinez of Wetumka; three nieces, one nephew and many other aunts, uncles, and other family and friends.

ELEANOR HARPER

WEWOKA — Funeral services for Eleanor A. Harper were held on October 28 at Stout-Phillips Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Jerry Baker and Reverend Joe Lowe.

She was born on April 8, 1920 in Wewoka, to Alfred and Anna (Benden) Harper.

She grew up in Wewoka and graduated from Butner High School. After graduation, during the war, she worked for Douglas Aircraft as a riveter in Oklahoma City, then returned home to Wewoka.

Eleanor was a member of Arbeka Methodist Church.

She taught children's Sunday School for a number of years.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers: Louis George,

Herman Eugene, Ethan Alfred; and two sisters: Jennie Bowers and Edith Brown.

Survivors included her twin niece and nephew, whom she raised, Karen Shurley and David Shurley of Wewoka; son, Randolph Stephenson of Wewoka; sisters: Louise Horton of Wewoka, Lucille Gibson of Bartlesville and Florence Harper of Tulsa; several nieces and nephews and her special cat Sammy.

Pallbearer were Tim Harper, Terry Harper, Dustin Horton, Bruton Horton, and Braden Harper.

Honorary Pallbearers included David Shurley, Sam Horton, Robert Horton, and John Brown.

Interment was at the Harper Family cemetery.

ELTON JIMBOY

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Elton Ray Jimboy were held at the Creek Chapel Methodist Church with Reverends Edwin Jimboy and Ronald Brown officiating.

Elton was born January 30, 1960 in Sapulpa to William and Helen (Harjo) Jimboy.

He moved to the Clearview with his parents as a small boy then later moved to Tulsa.

After high school, he enlisted in the Oklahoma National Guard and served two years.

He married Genell Bear.

After leaving the service he went to work for North American Galvanizing Company of Tulsa and worked there for several years.

Elton is survived by his wife Genell Jimboy of Tulsa; two sons: William Ray and Alan Ray Jimboy of Tulsa; two brothers: David Jimboy of Glenpool and Marcy Jimboy of Ada; sisters: Princess Pat Chester of Hulbert, Leann Jack of Tulsa, Edith Jimboy of Clearview, Louise "Kitty" Chotkey of Tulsa, Margie Sue McIntosh of Glenpool, and Robin Bobby Armstrong of El Reno.

Pallbearers were David Bear, Timothy Knight, Clifford Frank Bear, Bobby Delon, Isaac Benn, and Charles Burris.

Interment was at the Creek Chapel Cemetery.

DWAYNE LOWE



LOWE

YEAGER — Funeral services for Dwayne Lowe were held November 12 at Yeager Methodist Church with Reverend Ed Bear and Reverend David Dunson officiating.

He was born June 10, 1953 in Talihina to George and Ester Cain-Lowe.

He grew up in the Spaulding area with Albert and Elizabeth Lowe.

He graduated from Holdenville High School in 1971 and from East Central University with a Bachelors Degree in social work in 1979.

He married Janice Harjo at Kaney Chapel United Methodist Church on March 21, 1975.

Dwayne worked for the Hughes County Department of Human Services in 1980 until his retirement in 1997.

He served four terms as Muscogee Creek Nation National Council representative for Tukvptce district.

He was member of yeager Indian Methodist Church.

His hobbies included fishing, spending time with family, playing cards, dominoes with friends and watching independent softball.

He was preceded in death by his

parents, George Lowe and Ester Cain-Lowe; brothers: Amos Lowe, Lloyd Lowe, and George Lowe.

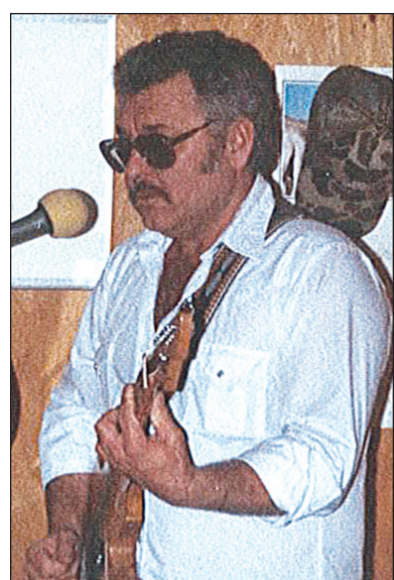
Survivors included his wife, Janice Lowe, of the home; daughters: Dawn Schaffer of Buffalo, N.Y., Leslie Lowe of Morris, Angela Lowe of the home, Stephanie Rogers and Dylan, of Wetumka, Kerri Burgess of Ada; son, Pacer Lowe and Brandy, of Wetumka; grandchildren: Elizabeth and Erik Hastriter, Devin Mixon, Nathan Fish, Jaylin and Liam Givens, Ky Lowe, Ethan and Erin Rogers, and Kelsey Burgess; brother, Fred Lowe and wife, Liz of Tulsa; mother-in-law, Lydia Harjo of Shawnee; brothers-in-law: Wilford and Victor Harjo of Shawnee; also a host of nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Dean Baker, Dennis Baker, Richard Lowe, Derek Simpson, Michael Lowe, Palmer Barnett, Victor Lowe and Brian Lowe.

Honorary pallbearers included Leo Moppin, Kenneth Barnett, Bobby Larney, Charlie Franks, and Darrell Coachman.

Interment was at the Yeager Cemetery.

JOHNNY MORGAN



MORGAN

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Johnny Lee Morgan were held November 20 at the First Assembly of God Church with Reverend Chris Braggs officiating.

Johnny was born September 11, 1944 in Huntington Beach, CA. to Earnest Otho and Mary (Martin) Morgan.

Johnny married Donna Skadal on February 14, 1966 in Laredo, Mexico.

Johnny retired as a boiler maker in 2002.

Survivors included two daughters: Cindy Summers of Preston and Lisa Brooks of Henryetta; two sons: John Morgan, Jr., of Okmulgee and Ernest Morgan of Henryetta; brother, James Morgan; sister, Alyne Morgan both of Okmulgee; 15 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Casketbearers will be Ed McCormack Billy McCormack, John Summers, John Morgan, Jr., Clyde Hunt, Gary Starkey, E.J. Morgan, Josh Quito, Danny Morgan, Frank Angelo, and Robert Gasaway.

Interment was at the Fleetwood-Bruner Cemetery.

SPECIAL THANKS

BARNES

On behalf of Gloria (Barnes) Jones, the family would like to thank Mr. Houston Tiger, Mr. J.B. Fish, Mr. Padilla, Salt Creek Baptist Church, Wetumka Methodist Church, Sand Creek Church and All Pallbearers for their time and services.

Thanks to all that made monetary contributions, your kind expression of sympathy was deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Thank you all for the consolation you have us and for your continuing prayers.

Sincerely, The Barnes Family

STEPHENS

On behalf of Richard Cornell Stephens, the family would like to express appreciation for the kindness and sympathy shown by family and friends during a difficult time. Thank you to all those that brought food and refreshments.

Also a special thanks to the Creek Nation for the services they provide and the personnel who were so helpful.

Thank you, The Stephens Family

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SPORTS

SHOOTOUT!

● 4 Love of the Game’s Annual holiday basketball tournament puts the spotlight on the younger Native American athletes

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — It appears that turkey, dressing and football will have to make room for one more Thanksgiving tradition; The All-Indian Warrior’s Showcase Shootout.

The Shootout, a tournament put on by 4 Love of the Game organization, just recently finished it’s fifth year and is growing both in popularity and participation. Think you were stuffed with food over the holiday? It was probably nothing compared to how much basketball the folks in Henryetta consumed. Here’s the menu; two days, 55 teams and over 100 games of action-packed excitement.

“When we first got this together, we knew that Thanksgiving weekend would be the best time to have it,” said tournament director Victor Bear. “All the families are together and they are always looking for something to do on Friday and Saturday. We figured why not load them up with some basketball? It’s caught on and continues to get bigger and bigger.”

The tournament serves as a basic fund-raiser for the organization, which uses the proceeds to go towards scholarships, sponsorships, trips and any needs of Native American athletes. Before this year’s tournament began, the organization handed out over 70 turkeys to needy families for the holidays.

Since its inception, the organization has financially assisted high school graduates with funds for college, sent local athletes to instructional camps and out of state tournaments, and has purchased athletic equipment for Native American youth with the revenue generated from their annual basketball events, including March Madness. The only difference is, unlike March Madness, this tournament gives the younger athletes the floor.

During the two-day event, basketball enthusiasts are treated



photo submitted

to five divisions of play with ages ranging from 5-14. Winners in each division were: The Rockets (5-6 co-ed), War Ponies (7-8 girls), Rockets (7-8 boys), Rim Shakers (9-10 girls), Dustin (9-10 boys), Lady Ballers (11-12 girls), Cheyenne & Arapaho (11-12 boys), Native Hoops (13-14 girls), and Cheyenne & Arapaho (13-14 boys).

Around this area, if you’re familiar with 4 Love of the Game organization, you probably recognize the name from their two biggest events. People come from many miles, and from different states even, to attend their basketball tournaments. But this past year, they added a partnership that has taken the organization in many different directions. In July, they teamed with former

Oklahoma Sooners QB Josh Heupel, his father Ken and their “Day of Champions” Football Camp. Based on the success of the camp and the abilities of the Native American youth, the Heupel’s and their organization have agreed to continue this relationship with 4 Love of the Game. They are not only going to continue, but together, are taking each organization to a new level.

In today’s world, college athletes are well-oiled machines. NFL tryouts are now called “combines,” where a players value is measured in strength and speed. Every high school athlete is now evaluated on their strength and conditioning prowess. With that in mind, 4 Love of the Game and Day of Champions will be putting on the first

“Performance Camp” in May. The camp will range in ages from 6-18 and is being instructed by Mark Rozen, strength and conditioning coach for Day of Champions. Rozen, a professional certified trainer, has a special place in his heart for kids as he left his successful practice in Texas to join the Day of Champions staff full-time. Rozen has designed a workout regiment that will emphasize quickness, weight training and nutritional guidelines for the campers. In addition, campers will have the opportunity to stay in touch with Rozen via the internet. Kids in attendance will have access to a web-site, where they can download the training regiment and can ask Rozen specific questions about their development. In

“Nokuse” TOURNAMENT MASCOT

A big hit at this year’s Warriors Showcase Shootout was the 4 Love of the Game mascot, “Nokuse.” All attention during the tournament is directed toward the kids both on and off the court.

essence, each athlete will have their own personal trainer. 4 Love of the Game will also be creating a database of the athletes and their statistics in the categories of strength and fitness. This database along with the Performance Camp will be a ground-breaking step for Native American athletes in the college recruitment process.

“We’ve seen more and more Indian athletes step into the national spotlight, like Sam Bradford at OU,” said 4 Love of the Game board member, David Pascale. “Our kids notice that too and it motivates them, they know now that they can do it. At the end of the day it helps us in a big way to achieve our ultimate goal, and that is to see all our kids make it to college.”

Playmaker of the Month: Bigpond making waves as an athlete

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

GLENPOOL — As a sportswriter, one of the perks of the job is uncovering tomorrow’s future stars and following today’s heroes. And considering the enormous amount of exposure that the media generates for these athletes, it just seems natural that the Muscogee Nation News sports take time out every month to honor accomplishments and performances on the playing field of our great Native American athletes. So here it is, the first installment of the Playmaker of the Month.



The first recipient is a rising star in the athletic ranks, but may be making his most significant mark on the gridiron. I’m talking about Glenpool’s Caleb Bigpond.

Bigpond, a second grader, has just wrapped up quite a statistical year in the Glenpool Little League. Get this, the guy ran for over 100 yards from his running back position in eight of nine games as he led the Glenpool Silver Mighty Mites to a perfect regular season record of 9-0 as they stormed through the Indian Nations Conference. The success continued from there as Bigpond led the Mites to three straight playoff wins before fall-

ing one game short of the championship. They also took home postseason hardware, as winners of the Turnpike Bowl. In all, Bigpond finished with 13 rushing touchdowns and two receiving.

A few things you might not know about this up and comer. Caleb’s proud parents are Negiel and Collette Bigpond. His favorite teams are the Dallas Cowboys and OU Sooners and he also was a state runner-up in wrestling and likes to shoot hoops. My favorite part, his backfield mate at Glenpool Bryce Williams is Choctaw Indian. OU’s Sam Bradford better watch out, the Oklahoma Indian boys are starting to follow his lead.

To have an athlete nominated each month give me a call and send in a photo and information. To reach me by phone dial (918) 732-7644 of you can send all the material in by e-mail to jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

HOTCORNER

Whats up everyone? Ah yes, Its that time, Christmas time is here, everybody knows there’s not a better time of year. I hope some of you caught that, it was the opening line of the theme song to “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation.” It could possibly be the greatest movie ever made ever, but that’s a whole different column somewhere down the road. Maybe you guys want me to be a film critic instead of a sportswriter, but I don’t know. Anywho, I don’t think they’ll sign off on my paycheck if I don’t start talking sports so let’s get going.

Unfortunately with this time of year also comes one of the worst things about the entire sports world, the black eye of college football; the BCS and the bowls. Can we please get rid of the failed, flawed system?! I’ll get to all that in a minute. Another thing that totally boggles my mind, totally south of all the BCS

non-sense, is the entire bowl season as it is. In college football, C-students are included on the honor roll. Corporate sponsors keep shelving out the money, and as long as they are doing that, the university presidents will continue to visit the feed trough every December for the Christmas bonus. And these cities continue to bank off the travel revenue generated from fans that will actually travel to some of these places for the most insignificant games on the planet. There are some real hum-dingers out there this year folks. I mean come on who doesn’t want to cozy up on the couch to watch the amazing battle between Utah and Navy in the (no joke here) San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl. Or who could resist the temptation to pack up in the family van and be magically whisked away to exotic El Paso, TX for New Year’s Eve. I mean New York City eat your heart out. You may have Times Square but what you don’t have is the Insight.com Bowl featuring 7-5 Indiana taking on Oklahoma State, who didn’t even win as much as they lost this year. Give me a physical break! I’ve got a few guidelines that will clear all this up. I think to be in a bowl you have to have a record above a .500 winning percentage, basically win more than you lose. That would get rid of about half of these games and that would



JASONsalsman
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set up nicely for the remaining schools to be in a play-off. Look, I know everyone loves to scream play-off, but it really is necessary. There are two teams that have been picked to play for the national championship, when in reality a few more definitely deserve a shot, and they could get that with a postseason play-off. They do it in EVERY other category of football folks, EVERY single one. Division I college football is the only entity still using this outdated system. A play-off in the college game is totally possible and overdue.

But, my goodness, there’s no money in it. What? No money? No WAY!!

It’s almost spooky to me how the whole system is a microcosm of the way things have always been done here in the good ole U.S. of A. The reality is that it’s all controlled by a bunch of rich white guys, that want to stay rich white guys. Little much matters to these folks, other than lining their pockets with dough. I mean come on, we should know how this works by now shouldn’t we? The public doesn’t get anything it really wants, it just gets told what it wants. The bowl season is too big a money maker for these guys, they’re certainly not going to give up their personal investments on principle. Are you kidding me? What with the under the table money that is passed around and divided up throughout the conferences. That’s right, everyone gets a piece of the pie. So no matter what the price has been paid. If you’re the president at Baylor University, even though the only bowl your team sees is the one that holds their cereal, you’re going to smile and accept your check and make sure any vote you cast is one to keep things the way they are. I have a feeling things might one day be different, I think somebody will wise up and put an end to all this. They’ll be no more debates or doubts. We’ll get back to getting things done the way they ought to be done in this country, by earning it. I think we’ll feel better about ourselves at the end of the day if we trade in the white collar suits for some coal dust stained hands. But for right now, this is where we are. Big money, resistance to change, protecting years of inherited investments. I don’t know it all sounds a little too Republican for me. Merry Christmas everyone!

Creek softball team headed to All-Indian Nationals

by Nicholas Howk
MNN Editorial Assistant

On Jan. 24-27 2008, a fastpitch softball team made up mainly of Muscogee (Creek) citizens will be traveling to Orlando, FL. While in Orlando the Redline Fastpitch team will participate in the AAU International Men’s Fastpitch Softball Tournament.

The Redline Fastpitch team will be joining teams from around the globe to compete in the exciting, intense and dramatic competition that the AAU International Men’s Tournament is so well known for. The men will experience four days of hard competition with a four game guarantee.

These guys are going to represent the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The only obstacle that is in their way is gathering enough funding to support the trip.

These guys have been playing together for three years and have won six tournaments this last year and they need some help.

The Redline Fastpitch is going to be holding a 50/50 drawing during the month of January to help raise money. In this drawing, people will be able to buy tickets and when the winner is drawn they will receive half of the money from ticket sales and the other half will help fund the trip. Along with the 50/50 drawing, the team will be selling chances to win \$300.

For more information contact Dean Williams at: 918-830-2902.



SPORTS

Fixico leads team to a high school fastpitch state title

• Fixico’s play behind the plate earned her a spot on the 2007 Oklahoma Fastpitch All-State Team

by Bob Forrest, Ada Evening News

ADA — When Adan Lena Stick, a member of the 1956 Atwood state championship softball team, was asked last year why the Cowgirls, who won 56 games in a row between 1951 and 1953 and, before this week, had captured the area’s last fast-pitch state champion had been so dominant, she said simply, “We were just a bunch of corn-fed country girls who could hit the ball out of the ballpark.”

Jennifer Matthews’ Konawa Lady Tigers probably ate more corn chips than corn growing up, and they rarely hit a ball out of the ballpark during their remarkable run to the 2007 Class 2A fast-pitch state title. But they were another group of “country girls” who knew how to play the game and, in the end, they were simply a little tougher, a little meaner and as they proved over an extended five day stretch in Oklahoma City capped by Tuesday night’s 3-1 victory over Haskell a little better than everybody else in their class this fall.

Konawa won 41 of 42 games, losing only to Class 3A power Washington in the regular - season finale after winning 35 in a row. The Lady Tigers overcame the loss of two starters (sisters Jacklyn and Nikki Nail, who moved to Sasakwa) in early August and beat some of the state’s best teams from Classes 5A on down while playing 2A’s toughest

schedule this fall.

Feeding on a respect for each other and their coach and an amazing team chemistry, the Konawa girls beat strong fields to win tournaments at Byng, Roff, and Davenport during the regular season and outscored Mangum, No. 3 Apache and upstart Haskell by a combined 11-1 in three state tournament games. They also had a 6-0 record against area rival and 3A power Coalgate, which lost only five other games all season before running into perennial power Bethel and losing twice in the regional tournament. And, while their mutual respect for each other was a key to their title run, a perceived lack of respect late in the season from the people who rank Oklahoma softball fueled the Lady Tigers’ big finish. One game after Apache inexplicably moved past still-unbeaten Konawa in the next-to-last 2A poll of the regular season, the Lady Tigers traveled to Oktaha and beat No. 1 Oktaha (the defending 2A state champ), 6-1, to avenge an 8-0 semifinal loss in 2006.

Then to settle their last two pieces of unfinished business, Matthews’ girls beat Apache, 2-0, in a nine-inning semifinal classic last Friday and, after waiting for four days because of rain that twice delayed their championship showdown with Haskell, they wrapped up their school’s first fast-pitch title with an ugly 3-1 victory Tuesday night.

Senior righthander Hilary Kue-



Konawa High School teammates hoist the championship trophy after their 3-1 win over Haskell for the Oklahoma High School 2A Fastpitch title.

stersteffen 39-1 on the mound and one of the state’s toughest outs as the cleanup hitter in the Konawa lineup - was 2A’s undisputed MVP this fall. She didn’t allow an earned run through her first 18 starts, she surrendered just six hits in her first 16 state tournament innings and, after giving up a home run to Haskell leadoff hitter Amber Moats on a 3-2 pitch in the bottom of the first inning Tuesday, she came back to shut out the Haymakers the rest of the ay while her offense scored the first runs of the tournament off Haskell pitcher Jalie Neal.

Kuestersteffen pitched all but a hand full of innings for Konawa this fall, and facing the best teams in Oklahoma toughened her and her teammates for their 6-0 postseason run.

Fellow senior Erin Fixico, one of the state’s best catchers and, along with Kuestersteffen, Konawa’s undisputed team leader, had two hits in the title game and was a steadying influence on just about everybody during the team’s five days in Oklahoma City. Fixico had words of encouragement for sophomore first baseman Sara Reeves just before Reeve’s two-out, two-strike single in the top of the ninth inning plated the only two runs of the game against Apache Friday, and she re-focused Kuestersteffen after her pitcher had given up the only home run she surrendered all season to Moats in

the first inning Tuesday. The loss of the Nail sisters (who helped Sasakwa get within a game of the Class B state tournament) allowed Matthews to start a couple of other senior, Amanda Prewett and Destini Foster, who played key roles for the Lady Tiger down the stretch. Foster’s infield hit got Fixico home from third base with final run of the Oklahoma fast-pitch season in the sixth inning Tuesday, Prewett was steady bat in the seven-hole in the lineup, and they teamed with right fielder Courtney Capps to form one of the state’s best outfield.

As good as the Konawa outfield was, though, the infield was, corner-to-corner, the best in the state. In addition to being one of 2A’s best clutch hitters this fall, Reeves was also one of Oklahoma’s best defensive first basemen in any class; sophomore Christina Flaadden made it look easy at shortstop and had a parade of big hits during the season - the biggest a leadoff single in the ninth inning Friday that led to the winning run against Apache; sophomore Sydney Stoup’s quick hands and strong arm made her a rock at third base; and freshman second baseman Melanie Gladden provided a perfect complement to her cousin at the top of the batting order and was one of the cornerstones of a defense that averaged less than an error a game during the season and committed just one miscue

in three state tournament games.

Matthews will have to survive next fall without Kuestersteffen, Fixico, Prewett and Foster, but she started four sophomores and a freshman Tuesday who figure to form the nucleus of her 2008-2009 club. It was more than 50 years between fast-pitch state titles for south central Oklahoma, and Konawa’s victory was, in effect, a victory for the entire area. The Lady Tigers joined Latta in 2A and Tupelo in Class B as return visitors to the state tournament this fall, and the Roff girls came within a game of their second straight trip to Oklahoma City.

Although Kuestersteffen, Fixico and Tupelo stars Katie Campbell and Ari Rice won’t be back next fall, this area - long known as a state baseball hotbed but considered the back country in fast-pitch softball - is loaded with young talent. Konawa’s title run and the two year pattern of success by Latta, Tupelo and Roff has shown the rest of the state that softball in this area is pretty good, and our “country girls” can match up with any in Oklahoma.

Erin Fixico is a member of the Musocgee/Creek tribe. She is the daughter of Stanley and Emily Fixico, Konawa and the granddaughter of Charles “Sox” and Wynema Fixico and the late Nancy Sue Dunson Fixico.



ADA EVENING NEWS/Ruchard R. Barron

Erin Fixico, front row, second from the left, poses with her teammates and their trophy after winning the Class 2A State championship with a 3-1 victory over Haskell during the title game at Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Is the BCS ever going to be fully accepted, or is a play-off system inevitable?

GERALD WOFFORD

A playoff system will never be created in College football. Unfortunately the politics of modern college football and the powers that be will never except a playoff formula. The financial side plays a big part in determining the champion each year. College football will always be the king of college sports. Other college sports may except a playoff formula, but college football’s high popularity level will just not ever except

a playoff system.

This year in college football with so many teams losing has shown the flaw in the BCS. However, the bowls are setup as a reward for a successful season. Seems as though now if you are fortunate enough you can actually win a national championship out of it. But that controversy is what makes college football unique and the most popular college sport in the nation.

JASON SALSAMAN

You have to think that a play-off system is inevitable here. There’s no way around it. The BCS does not work, period. Only when you have two, undefeated, major conference championship teams does the BCS get it right. Well guess what folks, parity has arrived in college football. The undefeated season is a thing of the past. Thats just a trend that has changed in the game of college football, so the post-season should accordingly

change with it. The only reason we are even having this discussion is the big money men. Guys who sat on the Rose Bowl committee that want to retain their precious Big Ten/Pac-10 match up each year. Great, so we get stuck like this year with red-hot USC blowing out Illinois in a meaningless game. Why not give the Trojans a title shot? The Sooners? The Hokies? Too many questions to me, questions that COULD and SHOULD be answered.

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